FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ARAB ECONOMIC COUNCIL BEGINS MEETING IN RIYADH

LD261411 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0945 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 26 February--This morning Arab League Secretary General Mahmud Riyad opened the 26th session of the Arab Economic Council at King Faysal Conference Hall at the Intercontinental Hotel in Riyadh. Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, Saudi minister of finance and national economy, was elected chairman of the session.

Mahmud Riyad reviewed the Arab League's activities in the field of inter-Arab cooperation. He said that one of the weak points with respect to the joint Arab action was that the majority lacked total visualization of the regional and pan-Arab interests which would constitute the foundation of a solid Arab economy.

He called for the pooling of efforts to continue shouldering responsibility for building economic and political independence in the Arab world. He also called for bolstering the Arab League to enable it to carry out its mission and play its full role in serving the Arab causes of destiny.

He said that the Arab nation possesses sufficient capabilities and resources to effect radical change in the Arab conditions once the political willpower and full conviction to make such a development overwhelming and comprehensive exist.

Iraqi Finance Minister Fawzi Al-Qaysi, chairman of the previous session, also spoke, thanking the kingdom for playing host to the conference. He spoke of the importance of the unified Arab economic cooperation and its vitality to counter all challenges to the Arab nation.

Omani delegation chief 'Ali Dawud also spoke. He thanked the kingdom for playing host to the conference and stressed the importance of topics on the agenda.

Saudi Minister of Finance and National Economy Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl also spoke. He expressed hope that the session will end with fruitful results that serve the objectives of the Arab nation. He stressed the need to draw up a firm system to guarantee that the collective and individual Arab interests take into consideration the differences of the Arab economic systems and give due respect to the Arab resources--be they financial, developmental or natural.

He said that the establishment of the joint Arab company with the collective participation of the Arab governments is the practical way to establish huge competitive productive organizations.

Aba al-Khayl referred to inter-Arab trade, pointing out that a study made by the Saudi Arabian Kingdom has revealed that this inter-trade is limited, with the Arab states' imports from each other representing only 2 percent of their total imports. He called for rectification of this situation.

A number of other speakers also thanked the kingdom for playing host to the conference and praised its constant support to the common Arab action.

During its 3-day meeting, the council will discuss the drawing up of a unified Arab agreement for investment aimed at the flow of Arab capital within the Arab homeland.

It will also discuss the conclusion of a new Arab trade agreement, and will review two proposals for the setting up of two new industrial projects within the framework of joint Arab projects. An agreement for joint Arab fisheries will be signed. The conference will also discuss the Arab-European dialog.

The meetings are being attended by delegations from 22 Arab countries, in addition to the Arab League.

Council Approves Agenda

LD261414 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 26 February--The first session of the Arab Economic Council has ended with the approval of the agenda.

Following the session, Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl gave a luncheon at the Inter-continental Hotel in honor of the delegations.

ARAB STATES RECONSIDERING ARMS EXPENDITURES

JN261605 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 24 Feb 79 p 15 JN

[Text] Following the recent events in Iran, several Arab states have decided to reconsider the enormous funds allocated for the purchase of sophisticated weapons from the West. It is said that there is now an inclination to reduce expenditures on weapons and to rechannel these funds to various development projects because "the Iranian events have proved the futility of stockpiling weapons."

GULF STATES REPORTEDLY TO HOLD SUMMIT OVER IRAN

JN261942 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 24 Feb 79 p 23 JN

[Najib 'Abd al-Hadi dispatch]

[Excerpts] Kuwait--The general feeling in the gulf states is that the events in Iran have upset all political balances and equations in the area and that this calls for a serious search for a new collective strategy which must not be based on fear and caution, but on mutual understanding with a neighboring Muslim state whose power and resources exceed those of all the other gulf states combined.

A senior Kuwaiti official has told AL-MUSTAQBAL: The gulf area will be the next spot for a power struggle, not because of its strategic and geographical importance but because of the enormous oil deposits it contains. The next war between the superpowers will definitely be over energy, especially when the USSR begins importing oil in the early 1980's as current estimates indicate. For its part, the United States is no longer concerned about events in Iran or about what happened to its friend, the deposed shah. It is more concerned about guaranteeing oil supplies for its own needs. The United States' main concern now is a continuous flow of oil from Iran and other sources in the area to its ports and the ports of its allies in Europe and Japan.

The Kuwaiti official continued: True, current U.S. oil imports from Iran are not more than 5 percent of Iran's total oil output of 6.5 million barrels a day. But the United States will be compelled in the near future to increase these imports to about 30 percent. The United States is also primarily responsible for guaranteeing the flow of oil to its allies in Western Europe and Japan.

The Kuwaiti official said: Unfortunately, the gulf area, or the spot for the future superpower struggle, does not seem to comprehend the dangers of this stage or what these political changes portend. Even if the gulf area were aware of the situation, it does not seem to be sufficiently able to adjust to the new situation or to cope with the dangers of the superpower struggle.

In this respect, AL-MUSTAQBAL has learned that the Arab Gulf states, Saudi Arabia and Iraq might convene a summit conference soon to discuss the situation in the area following recent developments so as to formulate a strategy for joint action capable of at least filling the political vacuum in the area.

Informed Kuwaiti sources have confirmed that contacts are going on among the states of the region to reach some formula. In this connection, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ath-Thunayyan, Saudi Foreign Ministry under secretary, visited Kuwait last week and conveyed to the amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah a letter from His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He also met with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister. It has been learned that the purpose of this visit, which included other gulf states, was to coordinate matters with these states so as to formulate a strategy for joint action capable filling the political vacuum and establishing good relations with neighboring Iran.

FARUQ QADDUMI LEAVES BEIRUT FOR DAMASCUS

JN261627 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1525 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 26 February--A Palestinian delegation headed by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, left for Damascus today on a short visit to Syria to be followed by similar visit to Jordan.

During his visit to Damascus, Mr Qaddumi will hold contacts with several Syrian officials on developments in the Arab situation and the Palestinian issue.

In Amman, Mr Qaddumi will hold talks pertaining to the Jordanian-Palestinian dialog and the arrangements regarding PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Jordan.

FATAH'S ABU IYAD MAKES STATEMENT TO BEIRUT PAPER

JN261130 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 26 February--Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, Fatah Central Committee member, has said that the Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement is historic and a victory for the Palestinian revolution. In a statement to the Lebanese paper AL-ANWAR today he said that the Palestinian revolution flouts all rumors on cutting the resistance down to size after the Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement. The resistance considers this rapprochement primarily in its interest.

Abu Iyad repeated his warning that serious events will take place in the Lebanese arena in the next 2 months if the current situation remains and if the parties to the Lebanese crisis make no concessions to the homeland. He said the Palestinian revolution is ready to cooperate with all parties in Lebanon. Its only condition is not dealing with the enemy.

Abu Iyad said that the most serious thing in the Lebanese authorities' silence over the Sa'd Haddad phenomenon is not his cooperation with the enemy from which he can establish a state under the Zionist occupation.

KUWAIT

CRUDE OIL PRICE RAISED BY $1.20 PER BARREL

LD270818 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0706 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpts] Kuwait--Kuwait today has announced that it has increased the price of its crude oil by $1.20 per barrel. An official spokesman has told KUNA that the oil companies dealing with Kuwait have been informed about this decision which raises the price of a barrel of Kuwaiti crude oil to $14.03.

The Kuwaiti decision follows similar steps taken by other OPEC members which include the UAE, Qatar, Algeria and Libya. These measures have been taken by the OPEC countries after the price of oil rose in world markets as a result of the shortage due to the stoppage of Iranian oil exports since the end of last December. The OPEC ministers have accused the oil companies of exploiting this shortage and of raising the prices at the expense of the consumers and especially in the countries of the Third World.

Oil Minister Discusses Increase

LD271056 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah today announced that Kuwait has decided to increase the price of its crude oil by $1.20 per barrel as of last 20 February. In a statement to KUNA he said that this increase will vary every month according to the circumstances of the oil market, and that the aim behind this increase is to share with the international oil companies the huge profits they have made as a result of the circumstances of supply and demand in the market.

He added that OPEC's decision to increase prices attempted to strike a balance between the interests of the producing countries to maintain the real value of their revenues and the interests of the consuming countries in not affecting the producing countries in a sudden manner. However, the major oil companies did not take this into account and imposed on their customers high prices, particularly their customers in the developing countries. He said this increase is not a deviation from the Abu Dhabi decisions, but an addition that varies with the changing of the market situation. If the supply increases and stability is restored to the market we will go back to the prices on which we agreed in Abu Dhabi. If the deficiency in the market continues and the international oil companies continue to increase prices to the consumers we will think about raising this increase. The oil minister expressed hope that stability and balance would be restored to the market in a manner that would realize our interests and the interests of the consumers especially in the developing countries. He said that there is a possibility that the OPEC countries will announce steps similar to that taken by Kuwait.

FOREIGN MINISTER DEPLORES STATEMENTS BY SCHLESINGER, BROWN

LD271020 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0725 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today expressed his astonishment at and deplored the statements made by U.S. secretaries for defense and energy, Harold Brown and James Schlesinger, about the willingness of Carter's government to use U.S. military force if there was a need to protect vital oil interests in the Middle East.

Shaykh Sabah has warned that such statements are bound to increase tension in an already disturbed world.

In a statement carried by AL-ANBA, he stated: "We are astonished at and deplore the fact that such statements do come out from time-to-time from a country which has its great intelligence, strength and weight affecting the stability of the world because such statements have no other significance other than to increase tension in a troubled world."

He went on to add that the United States "is certainly aware that the oil-exporting countries and those who own this vital material are most anxious about the economies of the other countries in the world and have not shown a hostile spirit nor an intention to punish the consuming countries. The whole world felt this in the decisions of the OPEC conference which was held last December in Abu Dhabi." The conference decided to increase oil prices by 10 percent through 1979.

The foreign minister said that he regretted the statements made by the two U.S. secretaries of state and hoped that they were inaccurate "because these are unacceptable and are irresponsible since they conflict with UN principles and the freedoms of states and peoples. The time when the powerful states used to resort to these methods, the era of the law of the jungle, has gone forever and the peoples know how to defend their interests and protect the sanctity of their homelands."

INTERIOR MINISTER CALLS FOR GULF SECURITY COOPERATION

LD251344 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1214 GMT 25 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Feb 79, KUNA--In a statement published here today, Shaykh Nawaf al-Ahmad, Kuwait's minister of interior, warned that should any state of the gulf be subjected to factors of chaos and instability, there would be "similar repercussions in the other states of the region." He urged officials responsible for security in these states to strive "With all their capabilities and potentials, and with all available means to deepen the meaning of cooperation in the field of security."

Shaykh Nawaf told the weekly AL-YAQADHAH magazine that what is required for the "desired stability" is to keep the region away from international conflicts and free from any foreign intervention. He outlined that Kuwait rejects any foreign interference on the part of the superpowers in the region.

Shaykh Nawaf said that the realization of security and stability in Kuwait depends on the manifestation of "the sense of responsibility by each individual of the Kuwaiti community." Stressing that the crime rate in Kuwait is the lowest in the world, the minister however warned that "we will strike with an iron fist anyone trying to undermine security."

The interior minister also underlined that Kuwait seeks to achieve a democracy that would "strengthen the principle of consultation [ash-shura] and seeks to unite us, safeguard our unity, and strengthen us." He said that he supported the idea of the Islamic Shari'a as "being the main source of legislation."

With regard to the current negotiations between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia on the divided zone, the minister said that the negotiations were still going on and that they would soon end. However, he did not specify what has been achieved so far in these negotiations.

SAUDI ARABIA

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES NO OIL PRICE HIKE, URGES TALKS

ID271228 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Feb 79 ID

[Text] Here is a statement issued by the Saudi royal court:

The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has studied the supply and demand situation in the international oil markets with extreme interest, and it has noted with anxiety the increase in prices by a group of foreign oil companies of the oil the group sells. This is at a rate that exceeds the average price levels which were decided on at the latest OPEC meeting in Abu Dhabi. The kingdom has also carefully studied the decisions taken by some OPEC member-countries to amend the prices of their oil to conform with the prices prevailing in the market.

The Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, out of its grave responsibilities toward international economic stability, is of the opinion that the present position requires urgent consultations between the oil-exporting countries themselves, and between the exporting and the consuming countries in order to stop the energy crisis from worsening and to stop a limited number of companies from obtaining huge profits at the expense of the oil exporters on the one hand, and the oil consumers on the other.

Proceeding from this and out of its desire to prevent the world from experiencing any new economic upheavals, as well as and to give an opportunity for collective and bilateral consultations to take place, the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has decided to maintain its oil prices at the rate previously decided on at the latest OPEC meeting in Abu Dhabi. This rate will continue until the convening of the OPEC conference next month; then, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will define its attitude vis-a-vis oil prices after full consultations with the rest of the OPEC member-countries and in the light of its own national interests.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, while declaring this attitude, hopes that exporters and consumers will seize this opportunity to conduct urgent consultations aimed at stabilizing consumption and oil prices and at avoiding any setback that may be encountered by the international economic system.

OIL MINISTER YAMANI ADDRESSES LONDON ENERGY CONFERENCE

ID271027 London THE FINANCIAL TIMES in English 27 Feb 79 p 1 ID

[Kevin Donex report: "Yamani Warns of Further Breaches in OPEC Prices"]

[Excerpts] Kuwait and Venezuela could follow Abu Dhabi, Qatar and Libya in raising their crude oil prices above the levels officially agreed by the OPEC countries in December, Sheykh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabia's oil minister said in London yesterday.

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest crude oil exporter, still appears intent on pursuing a more moderate pricing policy, however, Sheykh Yamani told an energy conference he expected the price of Arabian light, the crucial marker crude on which other crude oil prices are based, to move only in line with the increases agreed in December.

At the same time Sheykh Yamani reacted coolly to suggestions made last weekend by the U.S. that America may have to resort to a military presence to assure the security of the oil producing gulf area. He said: "We do not want any military existence in our area."

The price of Arabian light is scheduled to rise by 14.5 per cent this year in quarterly stages. Saudi Arabia had no intention of introducing any surcharge in the second quarter, said Sheykh Yamani.

Saudi Arabia is producing an extra 1m barrels a day above its official ceiling of 8.5m barrels a day in order to make up part of the loss of Iranian crude on world oil markets.

This extra production is being sold at fourth quarter 1979 prices, but Sheykh Yamani gave a warning that Saudi Arabia would be reluctant to carry the increase through into the second quarter "unless there is a serious need to do so."

The increases expected from Kuwait and Venezuela could be in the order of $1 a barrel, he said, but they would be temporary and would never be incorporated into the OPEC price structure agreed in December.

Saudi Arabia is trying to hold to a moderate line for the special meeting of the OPEC producers in Geneva on March 26, which has been called in response to the turmoil in Iran and the supply crisis.

Sheykh Yamani warned the oil consuming nations yesterday that they must intensify efforts to produce additional supplies of energy from other sources.

The period of surplus crude oil supplies, which had been expected to last until 1980 was already over.

The supply shortage had been met adequately so far--by increased production from some OPEC countries and the depleting of stocks in the consuming nations--but it would be exacerbated if normal rates of Iranian exports of 5.5m barrels of oil a day were withheld much longer.

But Iranian exports were unlikely to reach previous levels, he said. He told the conference, organised by the Council for Energy Studies, that the events of the last four months had demonstrated the real state of world oil supplies.

"Those events have unmasked the truth about the persistently exaggerated assertions of certain individual theorists about the abundance of oil in the world."

Conservation and a reduction of energy demand in industrialised countries, though laudable, were not enough. They had to be matched by equal efforts to increase energy supplies. But so far such efforts had been "insufficient or inadequate."

The loss to world oil markets as a result of the halt in Iranian exports was now about 400m barrels or about 4.4m barrels a day, equivalent to about 8.5 per cent of total current free world consumption.

The loss had been met adequately in the short-term, said Sheykh Yamani. But OPEC countries had to shoulder the responsibility by overproducing in order to help the world economy.

"The sacrifices become even greater when the price at which those countries sell their oil is far below current market prices. OPEC may again demonstrate to the world its keenness to refrain from opportunistic behaviour by accepting less than the market can bear."

Further Remarks by Yamani

DW271128 Mainz Domestic Television Service in German 2000 GMT 26 Feb 79 DW

[Hans-Herbert Westermann interview with Saudi Arabian minister of petroleum and mineral wealth, Ahmad Zaki Yamani, in London, recorded in English, German translation superimposed]

[Text] [Question] How do you assess the remarks by Secretaries Schlesinger and Brown that the United States will insure its oil supply with military means, if necessary?

[Answer] We hope that this will not be necessary, and as before we are against any foreign military presence in our region.

[Question] Could the Western industrial nations do anything politically for the stabilization of the situation in the Middle East?

[Answer] Yes, through a contribution toward the solution of the Israeli-Arab conflict. This is the only road toward stability.

[Question] How long could Saudi Arabia maintain the increased output caused by the Iranian loss, if this were required?

[Answer] Our capacity extends far beyond a period of a year or two, but we want to increase our production only if it is absolutely necessary. And hopefully this will not be much longer.

[Question] Do you think that the Iranian production and Iran's exports might be back to normal again a few weeks from now?

[Answer] I expect a resumption of the Iranian exports, but I never reckoned with a return to the quantities which formerly were considered normal.

[Question] Could the gap be closed by other Arab countries without a price hike?

[Answer] I do not believe that there will be a gap; but neither will there be any surpluses anymore. What we will have is a balance between supply and demand, even if Iran produces 1 million barrels a day less.

OFFICIAL DENIES REPORTED U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE

LD271042 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0945 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--An official spokesman has denied what was broadcast by the Israeli radio about the presence of U.S. forces in two Saudi Air Force bases to insure the flow of oil to the West. The official spokesman has stated that this report is a fabrication from its roots and is without any truth.

PDRY MINISTER ARRIVES, COMMENTS 24 FEB

LD241746 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 24 February, SNA--PDRY Foreign Minister Muhammad Salih Muti said that he is carrying a message to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and His Royal Highness Amir Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister, from His Excellency President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Socialist Party Central Committee and chairman of the People's Assembly Presidium of the PDRY.

Muti told SNA after his arrival at Riyadh airport this afternoon that his visit is in preparation to the visit shortly of His Excellency 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il to the kingdom at the invitation of His Majesty King Khalid.

Muti expressed happiness over his visit to the kingdom and expressed the hope that it would lead to positive results. He said this visit would enable us to exchange views with the brother officials in the kingdom on issues of common interest, bilateral relations and their consolidation. Muti added that he would be discussing with officials in the kingdom developments in the Middle East and he would be exchanging views on developments since the Baghdad summit. The PDRY foreign minister expressed happiness at visiting the kingdom.

His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, expressed his welcome for and happiness with this visit. He went on to add: We are happy to meet Muhammad Salih Muti in his country the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. His royal highness said: We will review with his excellency means of cooperation and other matters of interest to both fraternal countries and peoples. He went on to add that the visit of Muti is to prepare for the expected visit of His Excellency President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il to the kingdom at the invitation of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal expressed his hopes that God will grant success to everyone for the good of the two fraternal countries.

Saudi, PDRY Ministers Meet

LD241748 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1705 GMT 24 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 24 Feb, SNA--His Royal Highness Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal held a meeting this evening with His Excellency Muhammad Salih Muti, foreign minister of the PDRY, who arrived in Riyadh earlier today. The meeting lasted for some 2 and 1/2 hours and was attended by Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry for political affairs, and 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir who is accompanying Mr Muti on his current visit to the kingdom.

Muti Departs for PDRY

LD251818 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1744 GMT 25 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--PDRY Foreign Minister Muhammad Salih Muti this evening left Riyadh for home.

He was seen off by the Foreign Ministry Under Secretary for Political Affairs Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri and Salim Subul, an official of the Protocol Department of the ministry.

FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS MEETING WITH PDRY'S MUTI 26 FEB

LD271030 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0810 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, held a meeting last night with PDRY Foreign Minister Muhammad Salih Muti, who is on a visit to the kingdom. The meeting was attended by 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, under secretary for political affairs in the Saudi Foreign Ministry.

SAUDI, GREEK TALKS ON BILATERAL RELATIONS BEGIN

LD261315 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1055 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 26 February--The official talks between Saudi and Greek sides began at Al-Ma'dhar Palace at noon today and were chaired by Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Greek Prime Minister Konstandinos Karamanlis.

From the Saudi side, the talks were attended by Second Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guards Prince Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Defense Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the King's Private Advisor Dr Rashad Fir'awn, Minister of Industry and Electricity Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi and Foreign Ministry Under Secretary for Political Affairs Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri.

From the Greek side, the talks were attended by Foreign Minister Yeoryios Rallis, Minister of Commerce Yeoryis Panayiotopoulos, and other members of the Greek delegation.

The talks cover bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries as well as international issues of common interest to both countries, foremost of which is the Middle East issue.

UAE

'ARAFAT BRIEFS UAE PRESIDENT, DIPLOMATS ON IRAN

JN231311 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1245 GMT 23 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 February--Talks were held today between UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

A responsible source accompanying 'Arafat stated that the PLO chairman briefed the UAE president on the latest developments in Iran and the results of his visit there.

The talks were attended by UAE Foreign Minister Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi and, on the Palestinian side, by Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, and Hamid Abu Sittah.

In another development, Foreign Minister Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi met at noon today with Mahmud 'Abbas, Fatah Central Committee member, and held talks with him on the latest developments in the Arab region and the situation in the gulf area. 'Abbas also brief As-Suwaydi on developments in Iran.

Diplomatic Briefing on Situation

JN231312 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 February--Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, met at noon today with the members of the Arab diplomatic corps and a number of foreign diplomatic corps members accredited to the UAE. During the meeting, 'Arafat briefed them on the latest developments in Iran as well as developments in the Palestinian cause.

'Arafat Leaves Abu Dhabi

JN231350 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 23 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 February--PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat concluded a short visit to the UAE and left Abu Dhabi this afternoon. During his visit 'Arafat held talks with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan on the latest developments in the Arab area in general and the Palestine question in particular.

YEMEN--PDRY

HARIB REPORTEDLY CAPTURED ON 26 FEBRUARY

LD261530 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD/EA

[Text] A spokesman of the revolutionary people's forces of the Democratic Northern Front [DNF] in the northern part of the homeland has announced that forces stationed in Harib comprising paratroops and others, together with all their weapons and equipment, have gone over to the revolutionary people's forces which took complete control of Harib this morning.

The spokesman said these forces are now fighting alongside the DNF's revolutionary people's forces against the scattered remnants of the agent San'a' regime's mercenaries, who are fleeing the area.

Victory to the revolutionary people's forces led by the DNF!

PDRY GOVERNMENT ISSUES STATEMENT ON ENDING OF FIGHTING

JN270845 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0825 GMT 27 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Aden, 27 February--The PDRY has stated that it will respond to any call by a fraternal Arab country or the Arab League to put an end to the state of fighting and war between both sides of Yemen and to establish peace and stability in the region.

This came in a statement released by the Foreign Ministry today. The statement says that the PDRY will comply with the call to settle disputes between the two parts of the Yemen and totally adheres to the policy of achieving union between them in accordance with the Cairo and Tripoli agreements of 1972.

The statement adds that the PDRY deeply respects the Arab League Charter and wants to pursue a policy of strengthening stability among both parts of the Yemen and of mutual respect for each other's independence, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and preventing the deterioration of the situation and provocations which lead to war.

The statement accuses the YAR Government of insisting on unleashing the fighting and on sending military forces to the border areas between the two parts of the Yemen on 23 February 1979.

YEMEN--YAR

FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES STATEMENT ON FIGHTING

JN261347 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Statement by official spokesman of the YAR Foreign Ministry on 26 February]

[Text] Forces of the ruling regime in Aden, which is dominating the resources of our people in the southern sector of the homeland, are expanding their aggression on the border. The ruling regime in Aden is challenging Arab and international public opinion and aims at dragging the whole area into situations that will benefit only the enemies of our nation.

The aggression of the Aden clique also aims at stopping our development plans and hindering the progressive march in our country.

The aggressive forces have used sophisticated weapons which include PL-21 and PL-14 advanced rockets, 160mm mortars, MiG-21s, T-55 and T-62 tanks as well as different types of artillery.

This aggression in which regular forces are participating, has resulted in overrunning and destroying villages and cities on the border by the aggressive attackers. The attack has also caused several casualties among civilians and the displacement of the population.

The YAR, which has practiced self-control since the beginning of this aggression in order to stop the bloodshed and to save the citizens in both Yemens, urges Arab and international opinion and all peace-loving powers to condemn the aggressive acts of the ruling clique in Aden. At the same time, the YAR stresses its right to self-defense in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter. The YAR armed forces, popular security forces and all citizens are capable of repulsing the aggression.

PRIME MINISTER KHALIL ARRIVES IN LONDON 26 FEB

NC261153 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1138 GMT 26 Feb 79 NC

[Text] London, 26 February--Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil arrived in London from Washington this morning for a 1-day visit to the British capital. The prime minister is on his way back to Cairo after the conclusion of the first round of the peace negotiations at Camp David. Dr Khalil is accompanied by the Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz.

The Egyptian prime minister was welcomed at London airport by Donald (Logan), personal representative of the British prime minister, Muhammad Samih Anwar, Egypt's ambassador in London, and Egyptian Embassy staff.

Dr Khalil is expected to meet with British Foreign Secretary David Owen this afternoon.

Statement on Camp David

NC262350 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2302 GMT 26 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 February--Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil has declared that the Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. talks at Camp David achieved satisfactory progress. He said that if Israel responds, there will be no obstacles.

Dr Khalil said in statements he made to correspondents after his arrival in London today and published in the Tuesday edition of AL-AHRAM that a draft agreement was reached at Camp David and that this draft will be submitted to the governments of Egypt and Israel.

The prime minister said that he will return to Cairo tomorrow to submit a report to President as-Sadat. He said that when Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin announces his acceptance of U.S. President Jimmy Carter's invitation to attend a new summit conference at Camp David, Dr Khalil will return to the United States. It is possible this will take place Friday.

He said: Everything depends on Menahem Begin's reaction and his acceptance or non-acceptance of the draft agreement.

Dr Khalil affirmed that President as-Sadat will not take part in the new summit because this is consistent with the nature of things. President as-Sadat is a president of the republic, and Mr Begin is the prime minister of Israel and I am the prime minister of Egypt. From the constitutional point of view, the negotiations are supposed to take place between myself and Mr Menahem Begin and not with President Anwar as-Sadat.

Dr Khalil explained that this is not due to disagreements between President as-Sadat and Menahem Begin; they had met before at Camp David. At that time the negotiations dealt with the general principles, and now we are discussing the details of the agreement and ways to implement it, he said.

He said that if Menahem Begin refuses to come to Washington that is up to the Israeli prime minister. If he insists that he will only take part in the conference if President as-Sadat also takes part in it, President as-Sadat will not go to the U.S. capital.

Dr Khalil explained in his statements that the talks which took place with Moshe Dayan and Cyrus Vance dealt with the specifications for the implementation of self-rule in Gaza. It was possible to reach the conclusion that these bases can be applied to the West Bank if those concerned so desire. Implementation will first begin in the Gaza Strip, and what will happen there will also apply to the West Bank.

Denies Draft Agreement Reached

NC270624 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 27 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil has denied that a draft agreement has been reached between Egypt and Israel. He said that he did not make such a statement. In a statement to a REUTER correspondent in London, Dr Khalil added that the negotiations are still continuing between Egypt and Israel.

Departs London for Cairo

NC271018 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 Feb 79 NC

[Text] London, 27 February--Egyptian Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Mustafa Khalil left London this morning for Cairo after a 1-day stopover in the British capital en route from Washington, where he led the Egyptian delegation to the peace negotiations between Egypt and Israel.

Khalil is due to present a detailed report to President Anwar as-Sadat today on the results of the negotiations and on his meeting with U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

Dr Khalil was seen off at the airport by the personal representative of Foreign Secretary Dr David Owen, Egyptian Ambassador in London Samih Anwar and members of the Egyptian Embassy.

AL-AHRAM ON CAMP DAVID DRAFT AGREEMENT

NC262332 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 26 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 February--The newspaper AL-AHRAM reports in Tuesday's issue that the draft agreement which was reached during the Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. talks at Camp David consists of the bases and principles for the establishment of self-rule in Gaza, which also apply to the West Bank.

The paper says that the draft agreement was presented as a comprehensive framework or a package deal consisting of interpretations of Article IV, which is a subject of disagreement, and paragraphs 2 and 5 of Article VI of the draft treaty.

(?Egypt) presented [words indistinct] ideas in writing and officially communicated them to the United States. The Israeli side asked to go back to (?Israel) to submit everything to the Israeli Cabinet.

The paper adds that Egypt formally requested written memorandums from Israel and the United States to take (?four) urgent measures regarding the West Bank and Gaza which it had previously presented at Blair House concerning public liberties, settlements, and the special measures which the Israeli occupation authorities are taking in the West Bank and Gaza, and the reduction of military forces in the cities.

AL-AHRAM says that [words indistinct] the Camp David talks to ascertain the meaning and context of self-rule, the way to achieve it and the stages for its implementation in a specific manner and linking that with the exchange of diplomatic representation with Israel.

The paper says that the Egyptian side explained during the talks that the achievement of the aspired for peace, as defined in the two Camp David agreements, is for the benefit of all sides, including the United States and Israel.

The paper says that the talks, which reached their climax last Friday, required the adoption of a political decision by the Egyptian and Israeli sides. On the basis of a telephone contact between the prime minister and President as-Sadat, Dr Mustafa Khalil informed Cyrus Vance that President as-Sadat had given him--both before coming to Camp David and after contacting him--full authority to conduct these talks and to make decisions. Moshe Dayan said that he had to go back to Israel, and that the Israeli Cabinet postponed its weekly session from Sunday to Tuesday to enable the foreign minister to return and report to it.

AL-AHRAM says that when the Camp David talks reached the stage in which a draft agreement was drawn up, Vance informed the heads of the Egyptian and Israeli delegations that President Carter would receive them and would consult with them about a proposal to raise the level of the talks. Vance contacted President as-Sadat and informed him that President Carter would call for a meeting of the prime ministers at Camp David.

The paper says that President as-Sadat informed Vance as well as Dr Khalil that Dr Khalil was fully authorized to accept this proposal and to take part in the meeting on the date set. The Egyptian prime minister will return to Cairo for consultations with President as-Sadat and then go back again to Camp David.

The paper adds that Vance also contacted Menahem Begin and conveyed to him President Carter's invitation to attend the conference. Menahem Begin informed the U.S. secretary of state that he will raise the matter during the Cabinet session, hear a report from Moshe Dayan and review the proposed formulations and then will convey his answer to the U.S. Government.

CAIRO PAPERS ON CURRENT PHASE OF PEACE TALKS

NC270811 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 27 Feb 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] The Cairo papers highlight on their frontpages the statements made by Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil to correspondents in London--the statements in which he affirmed that President as-Sadat will not take part in the upcoming summit conference because this is consistent with the nature of things. The papers say that in his statements Dr Khalil explained that the talks which took place with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance dealt with specifications pertaining to the implementation of self-rule in Gaza. Dr Khalil affirmed that it was possible to reach the conclusion that these specifications can be applied to the West Bank if those concerned so desire and that implementation will first begin in the Gaza Strip and what will happen there will apply to the West Bank.

Referring to this subject in its editorial today, AL-AKHBAR points out that the signs which appeared in the latest round of peace talks in Camp David indicate that they were a positive step toward a decisive position since the violent development of recent events does not permit any more prevarications.

The paper then refers to news agency reports that it was President Carter who brought the talks to this positive stage after meeting with Dr Khalil and Moshe Dayan, and that it was President Carter who called for a meeting at the level of heads of government to be attended by Menahem Begin and Dr Khalil. The paper expresses the belief that Egypt will accept the U.S. President's invitation because it is a natural step for progress in the peace talks.

Under the heading "When Will Israel Discern Reality?" AL-JUMHURIYAH says: The conditions in the area and in the world--in which explosions are numerous now--no longer allow any further obstruction of the process to establish peace in the Middle East.

The paper affirms that the United States has realized this reality and as a result has not hesitated to give priority to the Middle East problem, that President Carter has called for raising the level of the current negotiations and has decided to attend them himself despite the explosion and deterioration of the situation in more than one vital region in Asia and Africa. However, the paper adds, Israel must realize this reality also and must recognize that the present situation does not favor obstruction of the peace process.

The paper concludes by emphasizing that peace is the only guarantee for preventing the deluge from reaching the Middle East region and turning it into a blazing front from China in the east to the Atlantic in the west, threatening the outbreak of a third world war.

MUSA SABRI: SECOND CAMP DAVID MEETING OF NO AVAIL

LD261421 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 22 Feb 79 pp 1, 3 LD

[Musa Sabri article: "A Mad World and Situations That Need Decisiveness"]

[Excerpts] A decision to make peace is more difficult than a decision to make war. A peace decision needs an extraordinary spiritual power, a power which Anwar as-Sadat has been able to attain but which Israel has so far failed to reach. This is due to the nature of Israel's structure--a Zionist ideology based on religious fanaticism, its method blood and its slogan a false myth about endless persecution. The Jewish problem throughout the world ended following World War II, as the Jew Kreisky says, and the Jews live in dignity and honor and are even dominant in many parts of the world. But the Palestinian problem has remained--the problem of a people who have been dispersed and expelled from their country and their homes. Recognizing this fact is Israel's difficult decision.

This was the crux of the problem as As-Sadat put it before the Knesset in Jerusalem and before the whole world, as well as at every international meeting for peace.

Camp David will be futile now unless this fact is quite clearly comprehended in Carter's strategy or in whatever proposals that tricky minister Moshe Dayan brings with him.

Whoever reads Israeli statements these days must feel dizzy. The Israelis are not tired of talking, nor are they embarrassed to declare a certain stand in the morning and deny it in the evening.

They exchange imaginary accusations and try to deceive the world with a democratic game, just as they mislead it with other Israeli allegations.

If the wrong U.S. method is continuing--namely giving Israel more arms in order to be more flexible, as was evident in U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown's recent visit--then it means that the U.S. mentality has not yet changed. More arms to Israel means more obstinacy and a stronger belief that military strength alone is capable of defending Israeli expansionism. It also means that neither the United States nor Israel has learned the lesson of the October War. The ABC of this lesson is that "preemptive" wars, as they call them, are no longer a security shield for Israel.

Therefore, I am not optimistic that the current Camp David talks will be fruitful.

What we read about Israel's attitude toward self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza does not augur well. Begin's plan is now being fully exposed. They want to go back on ending military rule, on releasing prisoners and on withdrawing to secure positions. Furthermore, they do not want to be committed to any date for the establishment of self-rule. All this is on the pretext of Israeli security.

If we say that such obstinacy can be overcome only by a U.S. firm stand and pressure, there will be shouts in Israel that Israel will not accept U.S. pressure and will defy it. Israeli and world opinion will be assailed with claims that Israel's only ally is renouncing its commitment to protect Israel's security. There will also be statements by the United States that it cannot bring pressure to bear on Israel because, although the "guardian angel," it cannot pressure an independent state.

After the United States declared that the U.S. and Egyptian stands, following Vance's talks in Cairo, are one and the same and after Israel rejected this unified stand, we heard U.S. statements calling on both parties--Egypt and Israel--to show flexibility so that the talks could succeed.

When Carter called for a conference at ministerial level in Camp David he also simultaneously called for a summit meeting after that conference. It is as if he is declaring from now on that the present conference will not be able to reach decisions and that the matter needs a conference at the highest level. Therefore, I would say that the U.S. attitude is in need of a radical change. The first Camp David conference was a sufficient opportunity for the U.S. leadership to realize who is right and who is wrong, who is prevaricating and who is flexible, who is being truthful and respecting his word and who is lying and evading commitments. The story afterwards became boring for the simple reason that 90 percent of the game's cards are in fact in U.S. hands. This is true, and not just metaphorical talk. This is because the Soviet Union does not want a solution and Moscow wants the disturbance in the area to continue. It is daily providing Israel with new immigrants. It is also giving to a group of Arab countries weapons that are useful only for coups d'etat and not for war against Israel. It is expecting the United States to fail to achieve peace and, consequently, its responsibilities to be doubled.

In his message to President as-Sadat, President Carter confirmed two facts: first, that the United States has not changed its stand and its commitment to peace and, second, that the passage of time has now become a factor against peace.

As long as this is so, for how long can one be patient and wait?

Ambassador Atherton came to Cairo after his long meetings with Israel with a number of questions regarding the definition of aggression, so that Egypt's answer would be a common interpretation of Article VI Cairo told Atherton: leave these questions aside, because we too can put scores of questions to the United States that it cannot answer.

What is required from the current Camp David conference is not just procedural formulas with which to deceive ourselves that we have reached a peace agreement. This is not and will never be what Egypt wants. What is required is to face the truth, namely the Palestinian problem.

We do not want the previous Israeli stands to recur, that is, when the Israeli delegation would approve a provision, then Begin would say "no" and we would go back to where we started from, and thus the vicious circle would continue.

If Israel imagines that the Iranian events, Iran's breaking of relations with it, the setting up of a PLO office in Tehran and the banning of oil shipments are an opportunity to cry wolf against a new danger and to practice further exortion against the United States, then we wish U.S. policy to acknowledge that the present situation is the result of the accumulation of U.S. errors in the area since it first withdrew its financing of the high dam. Such errors could only be rectified through a serious attempt at dealing with Israeli intransigence, persistent ambitions and expansionist lust.

Therefore, the talk about a future summit between Carter, As-Sadat and Begin is futile now unless there is good soil for the success of such a conference. This will become evident in the current Camp David conference.

If it is possible to bridge the gaps in the outstanding problems and pave the way to total rapprochement, this would be a good basis for a high-level summit. But if we keep hearing the same song from Israel but with different words, then it will be a different matter toward which we will adopt a different posture.

As-Sadat's record of struggle for peace is pure and clear to all his people and all the world's peoples. The man has given the cause of peace more than any other leader in our contemporary history. No one will blame him if the U.S. part in the achievement of peace fails.

He has stood single-handed against the Soviet plots against peace.

If peace is the way to stability in the whole area and to devoting its resources to construction, development and progress, it is also the impregnable bastion to protect the strong U.S. interests in the area--interests that have become an influential economic force in the daily life of the U.S. community as well as the European community. To imagine that the United States can protect its interests without the establishment of peace is unrealistic.

UNDER SECRETARY MEETS IRANIAN, AUSTRIAN AMBASSADORS

NC261530 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1452 GMT 26 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 February--For the second time in 2 days, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Salah Hasan today met with Iranian Ambassador in Cairo 'Abbas Neyyeri. Discussion during the meeting centered on the future of the relations between Egypt and Iran.

The Iranian ambassador in Cairo is among those Iranian ambassadors abroad who were the first to announce their allegiance to the new regime. The Iranian Embassy in Cairo has removed the sign at the gate of the embassy and has replaced it with one carrying the name of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Meanwhile, Ambassador Salah Hasan today received Austrian Ambassador in Cairo Herbert Tschoffen. They discussed bilateral relations, particularly since Austria has been looking after Egyptian interests in Bulgaria following the severance of relations between Egypt and Bulgaria. They also discussed developments in the Middle East and Iran.

CAIRO PAPERS COMMENT ON FIGHTING IN YEMEN

NC260812 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 26 Feb 79 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Cairo, 26 February--AL-JUMHURIYAH and AL-AKHBAR comment today on the fighting in progress between the YAR and the PDRY.

Under the caption "The Arab Body Cannot Bear New Bloodshed," AL-JUMHURIYAH says: Those who planned the Arab clashes on the Yemeni borders seek only to exhaust the Arab forces, engage the Arabs in peripheral conflicts and diver the Arab weapon from its real target and battle.

The paper says it is the duty of all Arab states to approve the request of the San'a' government for convening the Arab League Council and for dispatching a factfinding commission to the area of the dispute. It adds that it is also the duty of these states to meet under the umbrella of the Arab League to stop this new Arab bleeding.

In conclusion, AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the Arab bloodshed in Lebanon has not yet stopped and the Arab nation cannot bear new bloodshed.

Commenting on the same subject under the title "A Suspect Move in the Arab Area," AL-AKHBAR warns against a suspect Soviet move, the signs of which began appearing in the last few days. It says that this move has short and long-term aims and that Aden serves as its center.

The paper says: A sign of this suspect move is the aggression which communist Yemen is committing against the YAR at a time when the rulers of Aden have sent their foreign minister to Saudi Arabia to work, they allege, for the establishment of normal relations between the two countries.

AL-AKHBAR adds: What draws attention is the fact that some Syrian Ba'th papers have called for a reconciliation between Saudi Arabia and Democratic Yemen. The Syrians are acting in the interests of the Soviet Union. Their call for this reconciliation is undoubtedly aimed at serving the required Soviet interests in this area. The paper emphasizes: it is Moscow, undoubtedly, which has urged Democratic Yemen to follow this trend of rapprochement with Saudi Arabia and to act, as they say, for establishing normal relations between the two countries.

In conclusion, AL-AKHBAR says: Regardless of what may happen, the aim of the suspect move, which is being camouflaged, is known and exposed. In any event, it is a move which calls for extreme caution.

VICE PRESIDENT RETURNS HOME AFTER VISITS TO POLAND, HUNGARY

JN261854 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Feb--Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf and the delegation accompanying him returned here this evening following a 6-day visit to Poland and Hungary.

The vice president held talks with officials in the two friendly countries dealing with the development of bilateral relations and the strengthening of cooperation between Iraq and Poland and Hungary.

Ma'ruf also discussed with officials in the two countries the situation in the Arab area, the current international situation, the future of the nonalined movement, and European security. The vice president was received at Baghdad International Airport by several ministers and senior officials.

The delegation which accompanied Ma'ruf was made up of Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi, Comrade Malik Bashshur, member of the Foreign Relations Office in the Ba'th Party National Command and a number of directors general in the ministries of foreign affairs, trade, higher education and scientific research, and planning.

The vice president was accorded an official sendoff at Budapest airport this afternoon by Sandor Gaspar, deputy president of the Hungarian Presidential Council, and several civilian and military officials.

The vice president has sent the following cable to Sandor Gaspar following his visit to Hungary:

To Sandor Gaspar, deputy president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic: While leaving Hungarian soil, I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for the hospitality which I and the delegation accompanying me were accorded during our visit to your friendly country. I wish Comrade Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee, and the comrade members of the Hungarian Government continued good health and happiness. I also wish further progress to the friendly Hungarian people and to relations between our two friendly countries.

On leaving Warsaw airport, Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf had sent the following cable to Edward Babiuch, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of State:

While leaving Warsaw following a visit to your friendly country, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to you and to Comrade Henryk Jablonski, chairman of the Council of State of the Polish People's Republic, for the hospitality which we were accorded during our stay in your country.

I wish you continued good health and happiness and further progress to the friendly Polish people and relations between our two friendly countries.

AL-BAKR CABLES AL-QADHDHAFI ON KURDISH LOYALTY

LD251426 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi received a message from brother Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, president of the Republic of Iraq, informing him that the Kurdish brothers in Iraq have been enjoying their full national rights and autonomy for many years as is known and can be acknowledged by neutral foreign correspondents.

The Iraqi president also confirmed in his message that the Kurdish brothers are loyal to the national regime in Iraq.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM YAR LEADER

JN261109 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0945 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Feb--Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman [RCC] Saddam Husayn has received a message from YAR President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on the current developments on the borders between the two parts of Yemen. YAR Information Minister Muhammad Salim Basindwah delivered the message at a meeting with Saddam Husayn today. Attending the meeting were Information Minister Sa'd Qasim Hummudi; Mujahid Abu Shawarib, YAR deputy commander in chief of the armed forces; and the YAR ambassador in Baghdad.

Basindwa and Abu Shawarib arrived in Baghdad Saturday as envoys of Yar President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and RCC Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn.

FINANCE MINISTER LEAVES FOR ARAB MEETING IN RIYADH

JN251357 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 25 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 25 Feb--A delegation led by Finance Minister Dr Fawzi 'Abdallah left Baghdad at noon today for Riyadh to attend meetings of the sixth session of the Arab Economic and Social Council scheduled to begin there on Monday.

Dr 'Abdallah stated that he will head the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the Arab Economic Unity Council's extraordinary session to be held in Amman next Thursday. The council will discuss the expulsion of the council's secretary general from Egypt and the reports of the council's secretariat on this subject.

TWO FRENCH VESSELS LEAVE FOLLOWING FRIENDLY VISIT

JN261834 Baghdad INA in English 1715 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Basra, south Iraq, Feb 26, INA--Two vessels of the French Indian Ocean-based fleet left here today ending a five-day friendly visit to the Iraqi territorial waters.

Commander of the two vessels, during the visit, called at the headquarters of the Iraqi naval force and met with its commander. He also visited a number of Iraqi vessels and the Arab Gulf Academy for Maritime Studies.

The visit of the two French vessels came within a cooperation protocol between the Iraqi and French navies.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT OF CYPRIOT PARTY LEADER

JN241028 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 24 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Feb--Talks began here this morning between a delegation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party under Dr Munif ar-Razzaz, assistant secretary general of the party and official in charge of the Foreign Relations Office, and the delegation of the United Democratic Union of the Center [EDEK] under Chairman Vassos Lissaridhis.

The talks centered on the struggling bilateral relations and ways to further develop friendship and cooperation between the two parties.

The two delegations also discussed the current Arab situation, particularly the Palestine question, and ways to confront the imperialist-Zionist designs aimed at the Palestinian Arab people. They also discussed the current situation in Cyprus.

Lissaridhis and the accompanying delegation arrived in Baghdad last night on an official visit to Iraq which will last for several days.

Departure Statement

JN261132 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0853 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Feb--Dr Vassos Lissaridhis, leader of the Cypriot United Democratic Union of the Center, and the delegation accompanying him, left Baghdad this morning after a 3-day visit to Iraq. In a statement to INA Dr Lissaridhis expressed his satisfaction with the results of his visit and described them as positive and fruitful.

Dr Lissaridhis said: Our special relations with the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party stems from our agreement on joint struggle against the imperialist and Zionist forces and their hostile schemes against the people.

Durnig his visit Lissaridhis held talks with Dr Munif ar-Razzaz, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and a number of Iraqi officials aimed at strengthening party relations.

IRAQI-INDIAN CULTURAL TALKS BEGIN IN BAGHDAD

JN251651 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1545 GMT 25 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Feb--Iraqi-Indian cultural talks began here today as part of the bilateral cultural cooperation program.

During their 4-day meetings, the two sides will discuss the preparation of a joint cultural cooperation program prior to concluding an agreement in this field, which would guarantee the strengthening of cooperation in the various cultural spheres.

HOUSING MINISTER MEETS WITH CZECHOSLOVAK DEPUTY MINISTER

JN261620 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1520 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Feb--Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and minister of public works and housing, and Frantisek Langer, Czechoslovak deputy minister of foreign trade, discussed here today cooperation in the field of technical industries and construction. The discussion also dealt with the role which Czechoslovak establishments and companies can play in implementing housing projects in Iraq.

Langer expressed his country's readiness to exert its utmost to promote and expand cooperation in the interests of both countries.

MINISTER ON GOVERNMENT ATTITUDE TOWARD ISRAELI MEASURES

JN261653 Amman JNA in Arabic 1525 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 26 February--Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs, today informed the Arab and foreign chiefs of diplomatic missions in Amman about Jordan's decision to present the issue of the establishment of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories before the world community and the United Nations. Mr Ibrahim also noted Jordan's call for a special session of the UN Security Council to discuss this serious issue.

Mr Ibrahim explained to the diplomats the serious repercussions of the Israeli policy of aggression in the occupied Arab territories. This policy has the aim of changing the Arab character and the cultural values of these territories. He also explained the serious threat posed by Israel's policy to the fate of the Palestinian people and the occupied Arab territories. The minister of state pointed out that, through its establishment of settlements and confiscation of land, Israel has grabbed 27 percent of the West Bank area. This is the most fertile part of the West Bank. The minister added that so far 116 settlements have been established and 68 of these are in the West Bank.

The minister said that the reason this issue is being placed before the Security Council is to show the council its responsibility to confront this grave danger and to take measures which will insure putting an end to this expansionist policy. The minister asked the diplomats to convey this information to their governments in order to explain the seriousness of Israel's policy. He also asked their governments' support for the Jordanian position on this issue.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING REQUESTED 23 FEB

JN240737 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 24 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Last night Jordan officially called for the UN Security Council to convene to discuss Israel's aggressive practices in the occupied Arab territories. In a memo to this effect, Jordan's permanent representative to the United Nations, Dr Hazim Nusaybah, pointed out that it is incumbent on the UN Security Council to study the continued deterioration which threatens the status of Arab Jerusalem as a result of the Israeli policy aimed at setting up settlements in the occupied territories. Dr Nusaybah said this policy constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security.

AD-DUSTUR: SECURITY COUNCIL WILL TEST U.S. SINCERITY

JN251151 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 25 Feb 79 pp 1, 17 JN

[Editorial: "The United States Faces a New Test"]

[Excerpts] The UN Security Council is expected to meet on 5 March 1979 to discuss Jordan's complaint regarding Israel's aggressive policies in the occupied territories.

The Jordanian call for a Security Council meeting is a positive exercise to activate this issue internationally and to urge the world organization to shoulder its responsibilities in the face of Israel's actions against the population, properties, waters and land in the usurped territories.

The Jordanian complaint paves the way for collective Arab action at the Security Council--an action which will emphasize to the world the "unity of action" among those whose cause this is, and their determination that the attitude of the international community toward Israel's aggressive practices should go beyond the usual condemnation and take a positive form that will put an end to these practices.

The application of sanctions by the Security Council against the Israeli aggressors is a necessary step, because the mere adoption by the Security Council of a resolution that condemns or threatens will not change anything of what is happening at present in the occupied territories. Hence, the Jordanian complaint will automatically lead to the testing of the United States before the international community. It will become clear whether the U.S. denunciation of Israel's settlement policies--which the world has repeatedly heard from officials in Washington--will take shape at the Security Council in the form of the application of sanctions or whether the U.S. veto will emerge once again to perpetrate the Israeli practices, while denunciations remain mere resolutions that go no further than words.

It will be difficult for the United States to justify any negative attitude it might adopt toward the Jordanian complaint, even if it claims that the Camp David procession, which it sponsors, requires such an attitude. To mix the Camp David procession with Israel's aggressive policies in the occupied territories would be a matter for ridicule. Washington has flooded Israel with arms and funds and promised it more under the pretext of safeguarding its security. Now, the time has come to see the "real U.S. attitude" toward Israel's aggressive practices in the occupied territories. In light of this attitude which will emerge at the Security Council in the coming days, the world will see whether the U.S. administration is sincere in opposing the aggressive expansion and inhuman practices on Arab lands, or whether it is seeking, through arms and the exercise of its veto, to enable Israel to swallow more Arab lands.

PAPERS CRITICIZE CAMP DAVID TALKS, U.S. STATEMENTS

JN261043 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today AL-AKHBAR comments on the Camp David talks between Egypt and Israel. The paper says that failure of the talks will be a great success for all the parties concerned with the Middle East crisis and the Palestine issue except for Israel. The paper calls on President Anwar as-Sadat to declare this failure. The paper goes on to say that by such an act, President as-Sadat would help President Carter announce frankly to the American people and the world that Israel is extremist and arrogant and wants to get everything without making one single simple concession; thus, it is endangering peace in the Middle East and all U.S. interests in the short and long run.

In its editorial today AR-RA'Y comments on the statements of the U.S. secretaries of energy and defense in the U.S. administration and the compromise they indicated that the second Camp David talks had reached. The paper says that insistence on peddling a unilateral treat means that the United States has begun to carry out its concept of security in the Arab area through overt military participation in maintaining its interests in the area. The paper says that Jordan's request to convene the UN Security Council to debate the Israeli measures in the occupied Arab territory reveals the extent of the deviation of the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations. The paper says that calling the Security Council to meet at this stage of negotiations means clearly that the principles called Camp David fall short of achieving the desired peace in the area in view of the provocative spirit with which they were written and the grave results that will insure after imposing them on the Middle East.

GOVERNMENT REQUESTS IRAQI FIGHTERS BE REMOVED FROM SOUTH

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 16 Feb 79 p 6 WA

[Text] The Lebanese Government has resumed contacts with Iraq via the Iraqi Embassy and the Palestinian resistance for the withdrawal of a group of Iraqi fighters who reportedly entered the south from Syria last week. This time the Lebanese request centers on reassembly of this group at distant locations, such as Al-Biqa', so as not to provoke any more sensitive reactions which would threaten an outbreak of trouble throughout the south. Arab diplomatic sources in Beirut have affirmed that the number of personnel in this group is determined to be about 500. They add that they entered the south after concerned quarters in Damascus and Baghdad received reliable information affirming that Israel would undertake a broad aggression in the area up to An-Nabatiyyah if the anticipated Syrian-Iraqi union were announced, and that Israel would not withdraw from all the territories which it would be able to occupy, as it did in the aggression against south Lebanon on 15 March 1978.

MILITARY DELEGATION LEAVES FOR BUCHAREST TO BUY ARMS

NC261945 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1915 GMT 26 Feb 79 NC

[Text] A Lebanese military delegation has left for Bucharest to purchase 10,000 RPGs and 400 RPG launchers. The delegation is headed by Lt Col 'Abd al-Halim (Sami). The deal will cost 4 million pounds. This is the first time the army has ever bought such weapons.

PRIME MINISTER AL-HUSS TO START ARAB TOUR 3 MARCH

NC261119 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 26 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Next Saturday Prime Minister Salim al-Huss is scheduled to start the first stage of his visit to Arab countries, including gulf states such as Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar and Bahrain.

Today Prime Minister al-Huss announced that the basic subject of his scheduled talks with the Arab officials will deal with the south, as well as Lebanon's position concerning the international resolutions on the south and the restoration of the legal authority in the area in cooperation with the United Nations.

VOL REPORTS ON SECURITY SITUATION 27 FEB

NC270641 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 27 Feb 79 NC

[Text] There was sporadic sniper fire, DSHK and antiarmor fire last night and early this morning along the Badaru highway, which is unsafe to traffic. Intermittent fire was reported last night in some areas in the capital, particularly in As-Sayfi. Explosions and machinegun fire were heard in the western sector in Beirut. The reason for this is still unknown.

LIBYA

DELEGATION RETURNS FROM U.S. VISIT 24 FEB

LD250008 Tripoli JANA in English 1418 GMT 24 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Libyan Arab people's delegation under the leadership of the head of the foreign liaison office, Mr. Ahmed ash-Shihati, returned to Tripoli. The delegation had been on a visit to the United States in response to an invitation made by Mr. Billy Carter and the American people's delegation which participated in the Arab-American dialogue.

Mr. ash-Shihati made a statement to the JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY's correspondent in which he said the people's delegation succeeded in breaking through the mass-media and psychological barriers which Zionism is trying to impose in order to falsify the Libyan Arab people's stands for the Palestinian people's cause and liberation causes in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

He said Libyan Arab-American people's dialogue was based on mutual respect and added that he felt a definite desire by the American people to establish close links with the Libyan Arab people. Mr. ash-Shihati said the visit changed to a great extent the prevalent American adverse view of the Jamahiriyah created by Zionist propaganda.

Mr. ash-Shihati affirmed the Arab communities and American people's understanding of the Great First of September Revolution's humanistic principles based upon the freedom and independence of man everywhere.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN INTERVIEWED ON IRAN, MARXISM, ISLAM

LD252340 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Last Friday His Majesty King Hassan II gave Mrs Barbara Walters, special correspondent of the American television network ABC, an interview in which he spoke about the development of the Middle East situation, following the changes in Iran, the policies of the two blocs in the region, the effect of the Iranian problem on the peace initiatives, and Moroccan-U.S. relations. The text of the interview is as follows:

At the beginning His Majesty King Hassan was asked about his views on the repercussions which the event of Iran may have on the Middle East.

His majesty replied: Iran is an empire in which many nations live. Throughout its history we note that this group of nations has hovered between unity and disunity. We can easily imagine what would have happened in Iran had the latter remained disunited.

Here the American journalist reminded his majesty of the statements he made while he was in the United States last November on the situation in Iran, when he said at the time in answer to questions put to him: If the shah falls it will be a tragedy; it will be a threat to the Islamic holy places which may cause a holy war.

The journalist asked: Are events moving in the way you imagined, Your Majesty?

The king answered: I maintain what I have said before because Iran is in need of a strong leader. If Iran continues to swing between the left and the right, between the new left and the new right, we will see the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia encircled by dangerous ideologies.

The correspondent of American television asked what would happen afterwards: Will the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia fall?

He answered: No. But this can constitute a danger to neighboring states.

His majesty was asked about these states and what region will be a hotbed in the future.

He replied: The gulf--Abu Dhabi, Oman, Qatar and Kuwait; and this will constitute a danger to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, particularly to our religion. As to how this will be a danger, the problem goes too deep. When a state loses the harmony which should characterize its own material and ideological capabilities, then it will lose stability. Any subversive ideology will have tragic consequences on its people.

His majesty was asked whether he believes, as far as these tragic consequences are concerned, that a holy war is imminent.

He answered: I do not believe this. I have always said that if events develop in the way we currently see them we will witness the birth of dangerous ideologies around the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia--something which will make the Muslims take up arms in defense of the Saudi cause--in defense of Saudi Arabia and their religion, because they will never allow the establishment of a leftist regime or a leftist-inclined regime in a state which is the cradle of the holy places.

Here the American journalist asked his majesty the following question: Can we say that the possibility of the establishment of Marxist or leftist regimes disturbs you?

Answer: If the states concerned do not do anything regarding the evaluation of the situation with the gravity which the situation demands, then the left will win sooner than we expect.

So, the American journalist Barbara Walters said: What will happen now, Your Majesty, and what can the neighboring states and the United States do?

His majesty replied: I do not want to preach to anybody, and I will not allow myself to do so. But I believe that it is important to know the U.S. attitude before knowing the views of the states neighboring the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

In the light of this answer the American journalist asked: What can the United States do?

Answer: I believe that the United States can be one of our friends on whom we can rely. But the United States should stop giving its friends lessons on human rights and democracy. I believe that democracy is a way of life, and that our democracy does not resemble your democracy; our needs and problems are not like yours. The United States should help us and stop giving us lessons on ethics.

To clarify what I have said now, I will quote an example from the United States itself. In the United States there are many factions of people extending from Florida to California. They all respect all the federal laws, but each state administers its own affairs according to its own way. The State of Illinois or Michigan, for example, can administer its own affairs with total freedom within the framework of the federal law. Why then can an Arab country not do the same?

The American journalist once again raised the question of Iran and asked his majesty whether he believes that the program of U.S. President Jimmy Carter on human rights was the cause for the downfall of the shah's regime.

Possibly, the king replied. At any rate, it is not what President Carter wanted. But I believe that the American information media, especially the press, had a share of the responsibility in this [word indistinct].

Did that happen as a result of the strong criticism, the American journalist asked.

Yes, his majesty said.

Was it because of criticism of the violation of the human rights in Iran, she asked.

His majesty answered: Yes. Human rights in the United States were contrasted with what went on in Iran.

Question: Do you believe that other states are now anxious because they see that it is not possible to rely on U.S. support, because the Americans are paper tigers?

His majesty replied: I believe that the United States is still under the influence of the end of the war in Vietnam. It can no longer distinguish between aid and interference for the benefit of its friends. The United States should have made such a distinction. Whenever it is asked to provide aid, it believes that we are asking for the intervention of the U.S. 6th Fleet or the U.S. Army. The fact remains that we have sufficient men and soldiers to defend ourselves, but we will remain convinced that the United States should help its friends.

As to how can this be achieved, it should be done in the same way in which others helped their friends. There are two kinds of relations in the world: a team on the one side and a club on the other. The Soviet Union and its friends form a team in which there is solidarity among its members, while we live in the Western world within a club in which there is no solidarity link. On this basis, it is not possible to have a football match or a hockey game between a team and a club because the team will always win.

In the light of this reply the U.S. journalist noted that the example cited by his majesty the king was clear enough. Here she asked: What is the strength of the Soviet team in Iran and in the region?

Answer: I can say nothing about this, but if we look at the matter closely we will note that the Soviet team is making progress and is winning stage after stage.

Question: Is this the source of your anxiety?

Answer: Definitely. This is because I am frank particularly with my friends in the Kremlin, Mr Brezhnev, Mr Podgornyy and the rest of the ministers.

I maintain good relations with them. I have always told Chairman Brezhnev that he should not waste his time and that I should not waste my time too. He will never be a Muslim; likewise, I will never be a Marxist. We are frank with each other and should build our relations on this basis.

Mentioning the Soviet Union, the American journalist asked his majesty: If the Soviets start to infiltrate into the region of which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the gulf form a part, (?do you believe) that this will lead to a confrontation between the Islamic world and Soviet influence?

Answer: I believe that a holy war is inevitable if the countries neighboring the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are changed into Marxist countries, or if this ideology begins to spread in that country.

In answer to the question whether his majesty the king believes that Khomeyni can oppose the control or influence of the Marxists, he said: I believe that first he has to begin by preventing this influence in his country. Afterward, we can see if we want to ask him or not ask him for aid and assistance.

Once again Mrs Barbara Walters returned to the attitude of her country and asked his majesty: Do you believe that the United States ought to have done something in particular and did not do it?

Answer: I don't know. I believe that we have not at the present time observed that the United States should have done something some 12 or 18 months ago. I think that wisdom obliges us to watch the development of events without intervening.

After this broad survey of current issues, the American journalist moved on to the question of the stay of the shah of Iran in Morocco. She said: Do you, Your Majesty, want to see your guest the shah of Iran reside finally in Morocco?

Answer: I appreciate your question because it enables me to clarify the difference between an ordinary guest and a political guest. Moroccan hospitality is deep-rooted. Our arms will always remain open to our guests--rich and poor. The shah is staying in Morocco in his capacity as my guest.

The Kingdom of Morocco has relations with Iran and not with the shah. The shah is staying in Morocco even though the Moroccan Government has already recognized the Iranian reality. In order to put an end to any misunderstanding, I once again affirm that the shah is my guest and this does not prevent Morocco from establishing political relations with Iran.

Afterward the journalist asked by way of supposition the following question: If the Iranian Government asked Morocco to hand over the shah as a condition for maintaining relations between the two countries, would Morocco do this?

The answer was: Impossible, because this will create a precedent in history.

The dialog continued: The American journalist asked: Do you believe that the shah will return one day to Iran?

Answer: I believe that the shah does not wish to return to Iran, because he was greatly pained as he saw what was happening in his country.

Question: Will his stay in Morocco be long?

Answer: I do not know.

Question: If he wants to stay finally in Morocco, can he do this?

Answer: In this case the matter requires a new arrangement, because his stay here would assume another form, and he would have to make a home for himself and organize his life and take care of his children and their schooling. The nature of his stay must totally change because he would merely become an ordinary citizen who resides in Morocco like all other aliens.

Question: Could he stay in Morocco and consider himself a king or should he abdicate?

Answer: The issue whether he is a king or not is not merely an issue of [words indistinct]. It is a fact the shah is no longer a king. In politics facts are taken into account more than philosophy. This is the truth which makes the shah no longer a king.

Question: Does the shah believe that?

Answer: In the real world can he issue orders? Can he direct the policy of his country?

Question: Can he stay in Morocco in these circumstances?

Answer: If he wishes to do so.

The American journalist then moved on to another subject, that is, the Middle East question and the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations, but without straying far from the question of Iran, as we will see a little later.

Barbara Walters said: During your recent visit to the United States, you stated that President as-Sadat had told you that the Arab part of Jerusalem would be restored and that the West Bank of the River Jordan and the Gaza Strip would gain independence in accordance with the provisions of the Camp David agreements. President Carter, meanwhile, stated that no undertaking in this direction had been made. Do you feel that there are actually undertakings?

Answer: I will not play the role of a referee between President as-Sadat and President Carter. Nevertheless, I adhere to what President Anwar as-Sadat told me.

When his majesty was asked about what had been termed by an American lady journalist as his majesty's good efforts to assist Egypt and Isreal to enter into negotiations, his majesty replied: I have made no efforts to make Egypt and Israel enter into negotiations, nor do I intend to make such efforts.

Question: Do you believe that the Camp David agreements will be implemented, or are they doomed to failure?

Answer: The Camp David agreements, as President as-Sadat put it, are but a framework for negotiations. These agreements are not an end in themselves, nor are they the peace which is sought. They are but a framework whose basic points are the liberation of all the Arab territories, recognition of the Palestinian people and their rights, and the return of holy Jerusalem at least to the pre-1967 position. This is the framework in which friendship, alliance and assistance and so forth can be contained. In my view, Israel should know that this, as far as we are concerned, is the minimum.

Here the American television correspondent referred to Mr Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Iran. She said: Yasir 'Arafat stated in Iran that what happened in that country has caused a radical change in the balance of power in the Middle East. Is this true?

Answer: Yes, Mr Yasir 'Arafat is right. The events of Iran have changed the nature of the Middle East problem radically.

Asked how that was, his majesty answered: Let us take this example: One day Iraq and Syria will ask Mr Khomeyni to supply them with arms in the name of Islamic solidarity and the joint struggle against Israel. What will his reply be? I would also be interested in the reply, the American journalist said. Mr Khomeyni, his majesty added, will have two choices: either to refuse and thus contradict himself, or accept. This will influence the balance of power.

Question: Do you believe that it is in Israel's interest to sign the peace treaty with Egypt at the earliest possible time? Has this become more inevitable than at any time in the past?

Answer: I believe that if Israel wants to live with neighborly relations in the region, it must portray this by making a big effort at t[illegible] current negotiations. Why? Because Iran has now become a meeting point for all the (?Arab) Marxist regimes; the president of (?South Yemen) is currently visiting (?Khomeyni). If the situation in Iran developed in this direction, Iran could give hope to the Marxist regimes which will spread in the region.

His majesty was asked about who, in his opinion, holds the reins of power in the Middle East: the West together with the United States, or the Marxists together with the Soviet Union?

His majesty the king answered: Neither the one nor the other. There is nobody controlling the situation in the Middle East countries--a situation full of dangers which reminds us of the situation of those who surround a small boat in the vast ocean.

The American journalist's interview continued: I know, Your Majesty, that you do not like giving advice, but what you are saying now is directed at the American people. What must the United States do to prevent the Marxists from reaching power?

Answer: First of all, the United States must be frank with its friends. I will give you an example of this. Morocco is a developing country. It works hard to earn dollars and pay for its purchases. Recently it repaid the sum of 12 million dollars to buy four helicopters of the Chinook type. Despite this we are still waiting for the delivery of these planes. We may ask: Why this delay? It is because the U.S. administration is still (?quite clearly) hesitant about committing itself in this or that direction.

In your administration there is a new left, and this thing is clear in Congress. The State Department tells us that Congress is the one who decides the delivery of these helicopters, but I know full well that the matter is not so because the United States agreed to sell 20 helicopters of the same type to Libya.

Question: Do you, Your Majesty, mean that these planes were delivered to Libya?

Answer: The thing that I know is that the cost of the planes was paid, yet the United States tells us: We cannot give you the four planes because you are in a state of war with Algeria over the Sahara.

Question: In other words, do you believe that the United States should choose its friends and be committed to aiding them?

Answer: Precisely.

Question: Do you believe that this has not yet been realized?

Answer: No, Quite frankly we have not seen this thing since the time of President Gerald Ford.

Question: Have you been on better terms with the two Presidents Ford and Nixon than with President Carter?

Answer: The issue is not an issue of persons. It is an issue of the philosophy of the White House and the U.S. administration and the State Department. I am happy with President Carter, but at times I am not.

Question: Are you not happy now?

Answer: Whatever the case may be concerning the Chinook helicopters, everyone knows that they are similar to the Hercules C-130, and they are not weapons but they are transport planes.

His majesty was asked whether the policy of the Soviet Union, in his own opinion, is clearer and more understandable than the policy of the United States.

His majesty answered: All I can say in this matter is that if one day I asked the Soviet Union to provide us with naval warships, planes or armor, I stress to you that I would receive them in the next 6 months.

Question: Of course, you still have not made such a request.

Answer: I repeat to you that I can obtain in the period of 6 months all I want.

Question: Is the matter with the United States not similar?

Answer: With the United States, we need 6 months for negotiations.

The final question put to his majesty the king was: Do you then think of making a request to the Soviet Union?

The answer was: We have our philosophy and I have duties toward my country. It is my duty to insure security, peace and prosperity for my country and my people. If I were unable to achieve this with the aid of my friends, then it would be my duty to search for it in any place where I think I could find it.

FOUR-POINT PLAN PROPOSED FOR SAHARAN REFUGEES SETTLEMENT

LD221824 Rabat MAP in English 1250 GMT 22 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Geneva, Feb 22 (MAP)--Ali Skalli, Morocco's permanent representative here for international organizations, was interviewed Monday at the Commission for the Rights of Man at the United Nations, in order to respond to the verbal attacks against Morocco by an Algerian observer during the thirty-fifth session of the commission.

The Algerian diplomat waited until the words of the commission were at the ninth point, "the right of the people for auto determination..." to begin his slanderous speech regarding Morocco.

Skalli reiterated the Morocan Government's demand that the situation in the Moroccan Sahara be clarified, that is to say, that Saharans who are found in the camps surrounding Tindouf be censored [as received] in order to discover their origin.

The Moroccan representative continued that "this principle admitted by Kurt Waldheim, secretary general of the United Nations, and whose application was intrusted to the high commissioner for refugees (HCR), has always met with the same fate of 'not received' by the Algerian authorities.

Skalli refuted, point by point, the Algerian allegations, describing the living conditions of the "prisoners in Tindouf" as well as the means chosen by certain Algerian authorities to carry out their plans. These means were once again unveiled by the last attack against the community of Tan-Tan perpetrated by the Algerian Army. On this subject, Skalli cited extracts from the letter sent by M'hamed Boucetta, Morocco's minister of foreign affairs, sent to Abdelaziz Bouteflika, his Algerian counterpart.

To put an end to the suffering of our brothers "sequestered in Tindouf", the Moroccan representative proposed a number of points in the name of the Moroccan Government:

1) The Moroccan Government will accept all persons whose Saharan origin has been established.

2) It accepts only repatriation operations organized and carried out by the HCR according to normal procedures.

3) It will grant all guarantees called for by the HCR, so that persons having opted to return, may live in dignity and liberty among their own people.

4) And that the Moroccan Government will allow delegates from the HCR to verify, at any time, that these persons continue to have complete liberty and the same political, economic and social rights as the persons who stayed in the territory.

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN DENIES IRAN'S BAKHTIAR IN COUNTRY

JN261615 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1600GMT 26 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Rabat, 26 February--An official Moroccan spokesman today refuted reports disseminated by certain news agencies and Arab and international newspapers saying that former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar is in Morocco. The spokesman said that these reports are totally unfounded.

ETHIOPIANS REPORTEDLY OCCUPYING FASGA PROVINCE

JN261932 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 24 Feb 79 pp 10, 11 JN

[Excerpt] Khartoum--The major portion of the talks recently held between Saudi officials and U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown was devoted to discussing the most appropriate measures to further strengthen the security of the Red Sea and the African Horn.

This underlines the unstable situation in the areas close to the Arabian Peninsula and comes in light of extremely serious reports received by Western diplomatic circles. These reports are published exclusively by AL-MUSTAQBAL.

The most important of these reports reveals that a few weeks ago units of the Ethiopian Army occupied the Fashga Province of Sudan on the eastern border. Neither Sudan nor Ethiopia has officially reported this occupation. However, Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri mobilized a major part of his 50,000-man army on the eastern border to regain the occupied province which is famous for its corn and sesame.

These reports add that as a result of the Ethiopian occupation of Sudanese territory, Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat ordered the Egyptian garrison in Sudan, which includes an armored brigade and 7,000 infantry soldiers in Khartoum supported by three formations of fighters and bombers, to support the Sudanese Army in regaining the occupied Sudanese province. Moreover, President as-Sadat sent 1,500 paratroops to eastern Sudan in preparation for a counterattack. Meanwhile, President Numayri sent his chief of staff, 'Abd al-Majid Khalil, to Baghdad in an attempt to obtain Soviet-made spare parts for the Sudanese air force, armored units and artillery. It is understood that the Soviet Union stopped its military aid to Sudan following the communist coup of 1971 which overthrew President Numayri's regime for only 3 days. The outcome of the Sudanese attempt to obtain spare parts from Baghdad remains top secret.

When the U.S. Government learned of President Numayri's preparations for war, it placed heavy pressure on Presidents Numayri and As-Sadat to stop the Sudanese counterattack so as to avoid a new war on the western coast of the Red Sea.

Western diplomatic sources say that President Carter's government assured President Numayri that the Ethiopian occupation could be ended through negotiation. The U.S. Government believes it can "contain" the regime of Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam before the end of this year despite the extensive military presence of the Soviet Union and Cuba.

Although President Numayri seems to doubt that the United States can contain the Ethiopian regime, he nonetheless yielded to U.S. pressure and froze his military campaign on Fashga even before his talks with Lt Col Mengistu, which were recently held in Freetown in an attempt to secure the Ethiopian withdrawal through peaceful means.

The above-mentioned sources say that President Numayri has given the United States until July to bring about the Ethiopian withdrawal. Otherwise, he will resort to war.

DAYAN GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE AT AIRPORT ON RETURN

TA261635 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1615 GMT 26 Feb 79 TA

[From the extended Afternoon Newsreel]

[Excerpt] Let us go over to our correspondent Yosi 'Abadi who is at Ben-Gurion Airport.

['Abadi--live] Here, at Ben-Gurion Airport, the press conference with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan is just about to begin. The foreign minister has just returned from the second Camp David talks. Mr Dayan is entering the news conference hall.

[Interjection] We are beginning with questions in Hebrew to be followed by questions in English.

['Abadi] Mr Foreign Minister, why has the need arisen to convene a summit conference exactly at this stage?

[Dayan] The discussions on the ministerial level did not lead to an agreed conclusion, to an agreed arrangement, and the general desire--of all parties I assume, with the initiative of the U.S. President--is to reach an agreement. The U.S. President wants to convene the highest level in order to negotiate and bridge the still outstanding gaps. Had a complete agreement been reached on the ministerial level, it would have been sufficient for the heads of state to go to sign the full agreement. This agreement has not been reached however.

[Question] Mr Dayan, it was reported that the prime minister has not yet received Carter's invitation to the summit. Are you carrying this invitation with you?

[Answer] I was just told, by Mr Viets from the U.S. Embassy, that this morning the prime minister received a letter from the U.S. President.

[Question] Mr Dayan, as far as you know, if you know--why is President as-Sadat not supposed to participate in the summit proposed by President Carter?

[Answer] We have been told that President as-Sadat has fully authorized his prime minister, Khalil, not only to discuss but also to make all the necessary decisions on this issue. Therefore, President as-Sadat himself--so we were told--will come and take part in the ceremony of signing the treaty, if such a ceremony and treaty are indeed achieved. However, in the negotiations themselves--I repeat: I am only quoting things we were told--President as-Sadat does not see himself as a suitable figure to conduct negotiations on this or that article, this or that paragraph. I assume he also has other considerations, internal Arab considerations and others. In any case, practically speaking, at the moment he has authorized his prime minister to take all the necessary decisions in Egypt's name, he said that they have no reason to reach a conclusion and an agreement since there is a person here, Mustafa Khalil, the Egyptian prime minister, who is empowered to make decisions.

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, would you recommend to the prime minister that he take part in such a summit?

[Answer] I'll present my recommendation at tomorrow's Cabinet session.

[Question] With your permission, one more question: I understand that the team with which you left, with the exception of the two legal advisers, has remained in Washington. Why?

[Answer] The team included Ben-El'azar and 'Evron. 'Evron remained in Washington because he is the ambassador there and Blum remained in New York because he is our UN representative. Ben-El'azar contacted the prime minister, consulted with him on whether to return or remain, and in view of the talk between them he decided to stay and remained there. And as far as we are concerned, Eli Rubinstein and Naftali stayed there because I am taking into account the possibility that there will be a continuation of these talks and thus there was no call for them to depart in order to return to the United States within a short time.

[Question] If I understand correctly, you are to accompany the prime minister if the prime minister indeed leaves for the summit.

[Answer] This I don't know, I have no idea about it. This is for the Cabinet to decide. Firstly, whether the prime minister is going there and secondly who is going with him.

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, has no progress been achieved in the talks at the ministerial level?

[Answer] I'll report on that to the Cabinet.

[Question] Generally speaking, without entering into specifics, has any progress been achieved? When you were leaving here, you were speaking....

[Answer--interrupting] When you are saying "generally," and repeat what was asked before not "generally," you are not changing anything. Gentlemen, the report I have to deliver on the talks, in general terms and in detail, on the various positions and so forth, I'll present to the Cabinet.

[Question] Perhaps you'll permit me another formulation, sir.

[Answer] Yes, but the answer will be the same.

[Question] Before you left you said that if the Camp David II conference is followed by a summit meeting, you will regard the conference as a success. Can the conference be viewed as a success?

[Answer] If I said those things, I said them on the basis of what the President of the United States had said, since that was actually his own formula. The President of the United States said that he would convene a summit meeting only if he thought that this would be apt to bring about a complete solution. Hence, I said what I did then. Now I wouldn't want to touch directly or indirectly the question of what was agreed upon or the question of what, in my estimate, can be achieved or agreed upon at one level or another.

[Question--in English] Mr Dayan, why, as far as you know, is President as-Sadat not going to take part in the summit and can Prime Minister Khalil make the (?final) decision?

[Dayan--in English] About President as-Sadat's not coming and not participating, I can just (?tell) what we have been told (?with reference to) what you asked about Prime Minister Khalil--there is no doubt that Prime Minister Khalil [words indistinct] authorized (?to take) decisions on behalf of Egypt and on behalf of President as-Sadat. That was also the explanation of President as-Sadat why not [word indistinct] that he would be there except for when it comes to the actual signing of the agreement [words indistinct]. (?And) he said that as far as the negotiations are concerned then the prime minister will be much better qualified for that and that he should do it and will be authorized to do it on his behalf. I have the impression really that Prime Minister Khalil is qualified and is authorized to do that.

['Abadi] According to Foreign Minister Dayan Prime Minister Khalil is indeed authorized to conduct the negotiations.

MINISTERS UPSET BY CARTER INVITATION, BEGIN COMMENTS

TA261257 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 26 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Will Menahem Begin go to Camp David? A group of senior ministers has expressed grave doubts as to whether, under existing conditions, the prime minister should respond to President Carter's invitation. Several ministers stressed that the acceptance of the invitation would mean accepting President as-Sadat's dictates. They fear that pressure will be put on Begin and that he will be blamed for the failure of the negotiations. These ministers are angry about the fact that President as-Sadat did not accept President Carter's invitation and decided to send his prime minister to Camp David.

Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer points out that these ministers refuse to express their views in public before tomorrow's special Cabinet session.

At noon the prime minister was asked whether he was disappointed that President as-Sadat would not be going to Camp David. Mr Begin replied that the matter was not one of anybody's personal participation, but pointed out that it was President as-Sadat who made most of the decisions in Egypt, in contrast to the situation in Israel, where decisions were made by the Cabinet and the Knesset. However, he said that the issues which would be raised at Camp David were not issues between two people, but between two countries. The prime minister was replying to questions by a group of journalists from the Netherlands. He told them that very important problems would be raised at tomorrow's Cabinet session--problems involving our security and future--and we must discuss them in depth and with caution.

Peres Reaction

TA261619 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 26 Feb 79 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] The opposition has made public its position on the question as to whether to go to Camp David to a summit without As-Sadat and with the participation of Khalil, Begin and Carter. The remarks of the head of the Labor Party, MK Shim'on Peres, follow:

[Peres--Begin recording] As a rule I would say that if a president issues an invitation, one should accept. I would add also that we want to conclude the negotiations with Egypt. We have a real problem here, of course: The fact that the level has changed and such meetings in the past were held with the participation of As-Sadat himself. It seems to me that practically speaking it is most desirable that As-Sadat will be a partner at the summit conference. Therefore, my initial advice was--without knowing the reasons [apparently for As-Sadat's nonparticipation]--to make renewed efforts so that the meeting in Washington will indeed be on an appropriate level on the part of the three countries participating in the talks.

[Unidentified correspondent] Shim'on Peres believes that although efforts should be made to convince President as-Sadat to come to the planned summit in Camp David, it is necessary to have such a summit in any case as no agreement was reached in the Vance-Dayan-Khalil talks regarding two central issues: the linkage and the priority of the Egyptian-Israel treaty to other Egyptian agreements in the Arab world.

[Peres] Any objective solution will, in my opinion, be based on compromise. When you are faced with two possibilities what usually happens in the end is that a third possibility, unforeseen by anybody, is found. [end recording]

Arens Reaction

TA261741 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 26 Feb 79 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] The head of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, Prof Moshe Arens, believes that according to present data it is pointless to convene a third conference in Camp David along President Carter's lines. Such a conference, in the absence of President as-Sadat, has a clear objective, according to Professor Arens: applying pressure on Prime Minister Begin to achieve further concessions from Israel. Our correspondent Moshe Hakohen talked with MK Arens.

[Begin recording] [Arens] Let us assume that the invitation did not get here in a humiliating but in a correct and proper manner--are we interested in holding another summit meeting, especially when the Egyptian representative is Mustafa Khalil and not As-Sadat while on our side the representative is the prime minister? It appears to me that we do not want talks in this format since such talks will exert pressure on Israel. I would go even further: I think that a condition to participation in a summit conference--if it is needed, I do not see what great benefit might be drawn from such a meeting--is some sort of a report which is perhaps carried by the foreign minister to the effect that the Egyptians are prepared to go back on their latest demands of making one treaty conditional on the other. Without their readiness to retract these demands, any further meeting cannot lead to an agreement.

[Hakohen] Professor Arens believes that Israel should pose four additional conditions to the signing of a peace treaty with Egypt: the continued operation of the early warning stations in the Sinai, a matter that was concluded in Camp David and dropped from the draft treaty worked out in Blair House; an Egyptian commitment to supply all the oil needs of Israel after the signing of the peace treaty and the withdrawal from the Sinai; a U.S. undertaking to cover all the expenses involved in the withdrawal from the Sinai and the redeployment in the Negev; and, finally, a U.S. undertaking not to supply arms to Egypt also after the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. [end recording]

Sharon Reaction

TA262007 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon today leveled harsh criticism at President Carter's invitation, saying this is an attempt to break Israel's capability of resistance and that the attempt is rude and humiliating. Mr Sharon said this is an attempt to dictate conditions to Israel which it does not desire and cannot accept. Speaking at a convention in Rishpon, Mr Sharon added that there has never been such an attempt to break our force of will and our self-confidence.

MA'ARIV Reaction

TA261156 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Feb 79 p 1 TA

[Text] "President Jimmy Carter may pull out of the peace negotiations between Egypt and Israel if Prime Minister Menahem Begin does not reply within 48 hours to the invitation to participate in the summit with Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil and headed by the U.S. President."

This, in fact, is the situation created last night, and as it was presented to Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Even though up to this morning the official formulation of Carter's invitation has not been received, knowledgeable sources regard Carter's announcement as constituting "an ultimatum." In Jerusalem, it aroused a great deal of dismay.

The prime minister was at first inclined to accept the invitation, but after further considerations has postponed the decision until after tomorrow's Cabinet session.

This is not only because his Egyptian "partner" to that meeting is to be the Egyptian prime minister rather than President Anwar as-Sadat--President Carter has agreed to this--but also because, unlike in the past, this was not an invitation extended in the customary and respectable way, as could be expected--in light of previous experience--to come from a U.S. President to the prime minister of Israel; instead, it has the air of "a summons" or a directive about it.

BEGIN MEETS UK'S WHITELAW; LIKUD DISCUSSES CARTER INVITATION

TA261247 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 26 Feb 79 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] The members of the Likud Knesset faction leadership also dealt, this morning, with the question of whether the prime minister should respond to President Carter's invitation to go to Washington. There were those who criticized the form of the invitation. And, in the meantime, the prime minister met with William Whitelaw, the British Conservative Party's number two man, and gave him details on the status of the negotiations. Our Knesset correspondent Razi Barqay reports.

[Barqay--live or recorded] The meeting with the British opposition member was short. Naturally the agenda had on it the political negotiations and the invitation to a summit conference in Washington. Short remarks were made by Whitelaw at the end of the meeting; what was noticeable was that he was not interested in going any further and giving details of his talk with Mr Begin.

[Begin recording] [Whitelaw--in English] He told me that he had received the suggestion and would naturally be considering it.

[Unidentified correspondent--in English] He didn't go any further than that? Did you ask him to go any further?

[Whitelaw--in English] Of course not, it wouldn't have been my business to do so.

[Unidentified correspondent--in English] What sort of an impression did you get about where the peace process with Egypt stands right now?

[Whitelaw--in English] I was told by the prime minister about the position and I fully understand that. I don't think I would like to say anything further at this stage. Naturally, in Britain we all very much hope that there will be an agreement and everybody in Britain hopes, trusts very much, that everything will be done to that end, and we know it will be. [end recording]

[Barqay--translates Whitelaw remarks into Hebrew and continues] The prime minister began another meeting with Netherlands journalists who are here to cover the visit by their foreign minister and, parallel with this, the leadership of the Likud Knesset faction met and severe criticism was heard there about the form of the invitation sent by President Carter to Jerusalem. Ge'ula Khoen proposed rejecting what she calls a degrading invitation. This is sneering at the prime minister, she said, and sneering at all of Israel. Remarks in that spirit but in a slightly more moderate formulation were also made by another member of the leadership, the deputy chairman of the Knesset, Moshe Meron.

[Begin recording] [Meron] I think that when there is a summit conference, the reference is to the president of the United States, the president of Egypt and our prime minister. The level of the three of them, despite the fact that the prime minister is, as it were, only a prime minister, is in fact equal to the position of the U.S. President, who also has no prime minister and is, in fact, the head of policy. Therefore the invitation, as it is being made at the moment, does not appear to be an honorable one to me.

[Barqay] Would you advise the prime minister not to go to the United States?

[Meron] I would suggest to the prime minister that he should not go under these conditions--since I have the feeling that the intention is to put pressure on the prime minister, not to conclude anything, not to agree to anything, and only after there are further concessions on the part of Israel to invite the prime minister [as heard] of Egypt to a ceremonial signing, if they reach an agreement. [end recording]

[Barqay] In contrast to them, Pesah Grupper says that there is no loss of honor in being invited by the president of the United States. The faction heads, Avraham Sharir and Hayim Corfu, say: We believe that Begin will consider the invitation carefully and will know how to safeguard our honor. Minister Moshe Nissim sums up: There is no need for the issue to be raised in the Knesset assembly today. The spirit of what was said here today should be brought to the prime minister so that he hears the views of the members. This was what was finally decided by the faction. Ge'ula Kohen's proposal, demanding an urgent motion for the agenda on the matter, was rejected and the conclusion by Sharir and Minister Nissim was accepted.

MA'ARIV COMMENTATOR ANALYZES AS-SADAT'S MOTIVES

TA261921 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Feb 79 p 5 TA

[Moshe Zaq article: "A Summit Without As-Sadat"]

[Text] First Fahd, then Husayn, and yesterday--As-Sadat. Like the Saudi crown prince, the Jordanian king has canceled his trip to Washington and will not come to participate in the final stage of the Camp David deliberations.

Menahem Begin will leave at the end of the week for the meeting with President Carter, while Egypt will be represented by its prime minister: Mustafa Khalil.

The Saudis have canceled the visit because Prince Fahd wants to shake the idea of his having any affinity to the Camp David meeting. He does not want to have his name attached in any way to the Israeli-Egyptian negotiations.

The cunning of the oil princes has got the better of the "advisers" in Washington who made the Camp David deliberations adjacent to the visit of the Saudi crown prince in the U.S. capital. They wanted to get Saudi Arabia's support for this treaty before it is finally signed. That is why they at first marked time (Atherton's visit and the Dayan-Khalil talks) in order to gain time until Fahd came, and only after they had gained his support for an arrangement would they have invited the Israeli and Egyptian leaders for the ceremonious signing. The Saudi support was not intended to be merely moral or political, but first and foremost financial: Saudi Arabia is intended to play an important role in financing the economic rehabilitation and military procurement of Egypt.

However, Prince Fahd has reshuffled the cards. He has decided to postpone the visit to Washington and not be involved in the U.S. plan for an Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement.

This was a severe blow to the U.S. political efforts to bring the Camp David agreements to safe shores.

President Carter's administration, which has not recently been too spoiled by economic or political achievements, could not absorb such a shock. That is why it at first tried to conceal it by issuing an announcement on Prince Fahd's failing health, but when this could not stand the test of reality (the Saudi Arabian Embassy denied this), Dayan and Khalil were called to the White House and then came the dramatic announcement on another summit at Camp David at the end of the week.

Seemingly this is a summit meeting according to all the rules of ceremony. The president of the United States together with two prime ministers, the Israeli prime minister, (Begin), on the one hand and the Egyptian prime minister, (Khalil), on the other, but still things are not like this, because both Washington and Jerusalem know that As-Sadat is not one among equals, like a prime minister of a democratic country, but that he is the first and the only one to determine Egypt's moves.

This initiative of the U.S. administration has taken it out of the embarrassment caused by the cancellation of Fahd's visit to Washington. It dispersed the feelings of failure caused by Saudi Arabia's refusal to shoulder the burden of Egypt's rehabilitation and armament plans, but it could not guarantee that As-Sadat would receive all he demands, and that is why he is refusing to come to Camp David.

As-Sadat is aware of the compromises proposed by the United States. He knows the compromise concerning the "linkage" between the peace agreement and the autonomy, and he knows about the proposal to set the target date for the implementation of the autonomy for April 1980 instead of for December 1979. And still he is not coming to Camp David.

In all the briefings and portraits drawn about him by U.S. experts, it is stated that he does not like to deal with details; he concentrates on the overall picture. The deliberations at the end of the week will still focus on the articles of the peace treaty, whereas he is interested in knowing what the United States would give him the day after the agreement is signed: The extent of the U.S. aid he will receive to improve the Egyptian economy, and what kinds of U.S. arms he will receive for the Egyptian Armed Forces. But these questions will not be discussed at Camp David.

That is why it is convenient for him to have Israel exhaust itself in the tiring deliberations with the United States on the articles of the peace agreement. It is convenient for him that the United States extracts concessions from Israel, because he knows that even at the last moment he would be able to turn the agreement upside down if he does not receive the special military and economic aid. Not only that, but he is also hoping that Israel would get entangled in the deliberations at Camp David, that it would find itself unable to reject U.S. demands. It is on this "separation" between Israel and the United States that As-Sadat is building his strategy. Toward this end he is even willing to play "the policeman of the Middle East" on behalf of the United States, as long as he can kick Israel out of the special status it has in the United States.

The Camp David summit announced by President Carter last night might help As-Sadat attain this goal of his: to push us to a situation whereby we will reject the invitation and lose U.S. public sympathy. As-Sadat's refusal to come to the summit meeting was kept in secret. He could reject Carter's invitation without harming his image as "peace lover," whereas Begin must reply to the invitation, after it has been made public.

But the Cabinet, which will discuss the foreign minister's report tomorrow and the prime minister's departure for Camp David, would do better not to discuss "linkage" or "target date" issues, since even Israeli concessions on these matters do not guarantee the signing of the agreement just as Israel's insistence on these points would not prevent its being signed.. The Cabinet must review the upcoming summit from only one aspect: Whether the United States will be prepared to have As-Sadat sign the agreement without Saudi Arabia's blessing. If the Cabinet reaches a conclusion in the affirmative, then it is possible to argue over this or another detail of the peace agreement. But if the United States continues entertaining the fears that without Saudi backing As-Sadat would not be able to sustain himself and improve the economic situation in his country, then no Israeli concession would do.

This is the key to the question of whether or not the Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement will be signed after the second summit at Camp David.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT: NO BREAKTHROUGH AT CAMP DAVID II

TA261114 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 26 Feb 79 pp 1, 6 TA

[By Ron Ben-Yishay, YEDI'OT AHARONOT Washington correspondent, and Arye Tzimuqi and Avner Tavori, YEDI'OT AHARONOT Jerusalem correspondents]

[Excerpts] Last night, after having talked with Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil and Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, U.S. President Jimmy Carter announced that he had decided to ask Prime Minister Menahem Begin to join him for the Camp David talks, in order to try to overcome the stalemate in the peace talks. According to the U.S. plan, President as-Sadat will not participate in the talks at this stage, and Egypt will be represented by its prime minister.

As for the Camp David talks, sources in Jerusalem said that no breakthrough had been achieved there. The Egyptians have not changed their basic positions and only conceded to minor procedural and tactical changes. Nevertheless, it may be that the content of President Carter's conversation with Mustafa Khalil and Moshe Dayan will change this evaluation. This, however, will only be found out after the return of the foreign minister to Jerusalem.

U.S. sources who are well-informed about the talks remarked that the decision to invite Begin to Camp David was made in light of President as-Sadat's refusal to participate in the talks at this stage. This refusal embarrassed President Carter and the administration.

Many members of the Israeli delegation expressed their concern over this stance of President as-Sadat's. They fear an Egyptian "trick" in which Mustafa Khalil will at the last moment back off from the conclusions which will be reached, arguing that they require final approval by As-Sadat. According to sources in Washington, the Americans, too, share this fear, but Carter has nevertheless decided to take the risk and convene the "almost-summit."

A U.S. administration official explained this decision by saying: "It seems to us that Mustafa Khalil's position is strong enough to prevent unpleasant surprises. What is at stake justifies a meeting of the prime ministers with President Carter."

It has been learned that Moshe Dayan shares this evaluation and that he will recommend that Begin accept the invitation and that the Cabinet approve the interim conclusions and the principle of the approach to the solution of the disputed problems as they have been worked out at Camp David.

Despite the veil of secrecy around the Camp David talks, it has been learned that during the course of the talks the Egyptians and Israelis accepted the new approach, namely: to place the clarifications to all the disputed issues in one accompanying letter to the treaty. This letter will be in lieu of a series of clarifying letters which had been discussed in the past. General principles will be formulated in it briefly so as to enable each party to present its own interpretation to disputed articles, while orally reaching an agreement concerning the meaning of these interpretations. [as published]

In the draft letter which will be presented tomorrow to the Cabinet for perusal, it is emphasized that the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty is part of a comprehensive peace agreement. [paragraph continues]

Thus, further support for what has been said about this in the preamble will ge given. By this formulation and with the addition of the setting of a definite date for the beginning of the talks on the implementation of the autonomy, the United States is hoping to settle the dispute over the "linkage" between the Israeli-Egyptian agreement and the implementation of the autonomy.

While U.S administration spokesmen reported progress in the talks which made it possible to take up the initiative to convene the prime ministers, Israeli personalities associated with the talks claimed that "no progress has been made, but neither was there a regression" and that it is necessary to continue the talks on a higher level in order to attain real progress. The Israeli personalities emphasized this point over and over.

High-level sources in Washington nevertheless remarked that Prime Minister Begin has received a detailed and running report on the developments at Camp David and that he shares the feeling that enough progress has been made to merit his participation in the meeting with President Carter and the Egyptian prime minister. It could be learned from the remarks of these sources that the Israeli delegation is not interested in providing reports on the progress at Camp David which are too optimistic before the Israeli Cabinet discusses the talks and decides on their future.

JERUSALEM SOURCES: SUMMIT WITH AS-SADAT IN APRIL OR MAY

TA261138 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Feb 79 p 17 TA

[By Uri Dan]

[Text] "A summit between President Jimmy Carter, Prime Minister Menahem Begin and President Anwar as-Sadat is 99 percent certain," knowledgeable sources in Jerusalem said, adding: "The signing of the peace agreement with Egypt is unavoidable, and following it, full peace with Egypt."

According to these sources, the summit, during which the three leaders will sign the peace agreement, is expected to take place in April or in May, "but maybe even before then."

They explained that President Carter needs a successful summit "for internal political reasons in the United States, in light of the decline of respect for him and for the status of his administration," whereas Begin and As-Sadat "simply need peace."

Sources in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem claim that the progress made during Moshe Dayan's deliberations at the snowy Camp David further support this evaluation.

The question is, according to these sources, where the summit will take place. Part of the summit will be substantive ("again dealing with the most recent of problems of principle") and part of it, perhaps the major part of it, ceremonial and accompanied by the noise of public relations.

At the moment, three possibilities are being raised:

--At Camp David--the continuation of the meeting of last summer.

--In the area--in the course of a Carter visit to Cairo and Jerusalem.

--Aboard a U.S. aircraft carrier in the Mediterranean, near the coast, an idea which had already been raised last summer. This meeting place will insure complete isolation from the media during the entire meeting and will also demonstrate U.S. military power in the Mediterranean.

In any event, the sources report, one thing is certain: In the course of the signing of the peace treaty and in light of the approaching presidential election campaign, Jimmy Carter will not give up a trip to Cairo and to Jerusalem. Another thing is certain: He will take this opportunity to visit Saudi Arabia, which has become the focal point for the United States in the region.

MK 'AMIT SEES U.S.-ISRAEL DEFENSE PACT AS 'TRAP'

TA251434 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 25 Feb 79 pp 10, 32 TA

[Me'ir 'Amit commentary: "An Israeli-U.S. Defense Pact: A Tempting Idea--and A Trap"]

[Text] With the opening of the second Camp David conference, various and varying proposals return and are bandied about in our area, and these include: Israel must agree to a military pact with the United States: a real pact, written and sealed with the stamp of the two houses of congress.

Such a pact, in the view of those who propose it, could be of great importance to and greatly benefit Israel. It would guarantee us full security backing for a long time. Such a pact does not resemble an ad-hoc agreement, on the executive level, which may be canceled with a word. Instead, its cancellation would require a decision by a majority of two-thirds of the House of Representatives and the Senate--and this is a process which is not at all simple.

Furthermore--a mutual defense pact has further positive aspects. For example: It acts as a deterrent factor for all those thinking of attacking Israel, it has a calming effect on the public in the country and it would permit the decisionmakers more flexibility in searching for a solution to the problem of the Israeli-Arab dispute. All of this, of course, in addition to easing the economic and military burden and also the positive effect (even though indirectly) of creating a comfortable economic climate (particularly for foreign investors).

There is no doubt that all the facts noted above are correct, and there are certainly no few advantages in signing a mutual defense pact between Israel and the United States. However, these clear advantages are faced with weighty considerations casting doubts on the usefulness of the "deal." Let us examine the situation as it is: We will put each issue in the correct proportions and try to draw conclusions.

There is no doubt in my heart that when the weights in favor and against are laid on the scales, a clear and specific conclusion is demanded rejecting the maintenance of such a pact.

Before we go into an analysis of the situation, I would like to make some general comments:

A) We are, to a great extent, playing with ourselves here. Who guarantees that the Americans are in fact interested in such a pact? If I were an American, I would consider such a proposal with caution and appreciable reservations. And, at any rate, an analysis of the situation as expressed below expresses only the viewpoint of the people living in Israel.
B) My reference is to a mutual pact between the United States and Israel. If a regional pact is proposed, with the participation of other countries--the situation will be basically changed and will have to be considered in depth.

Those supporting the idea claim that signing such a pact would increase Israel's security. We must stress that the country's security components are many and all of them carry real weight. A superficial arrangement of the sort proposed is only one component of many and does not under any circumstances serve as a full substitute for the others. Below are some of the national security components:
A) The political climate (rivalries, enmity, war or peace with the neighbors);
B) Military strength (with all its components--including deterrent capability, weapons, personnel and so on);
C) Territory (geography, territory, space);
D) Time (both from the aspect of a timetable and that of prior warning);
E) Internal strength (economic and social);
F) Quality and quantity (the potential strength, both from the quantitative and qualitative aspects);
G) Maneuvering ability (flexibility, options for action, ability to use reserves, and so on);
H) External arrangements (guarantees, treaties, belonging to a defense pact).

As stated, only the last clause deals with our issue, and we must not err and think that it is dominant.

There are those who continue to stick to the position that "it is not important what the non-Jews say, it is important what the Jews do." Nevertheless, if we sign a mutual defense pact with the United States, we will enter the category of a complete satellite. We must take care not to destroy the advantage of the positive image still left us among the countries of the Third World--and this precisely because if peace agreements are signed, it may be that the possibility of working in "neutral" countries will open up to us.

We must not do anything which will harm our image and catalog us together with the "imperialists."

It is true that a pact written and formulated in detail, with the authorization of the U.S. legislative bodies, is "stronger" than just an agreement. And nevertheless--nobody denies nor will be prepared to guarantee that if the circumstances change (as far as the United States is concerned) even such a pact can be canceled. In other words, a pact is, in the final analysis, something temporary, passing: the damage caused is final and cannot be corrected.

The special situation and the complicated set of relations in our area, the existence of terrorist and terror actions going on, not necessarily in accordance with the accepted "rules of the game"--all this leaves a great deal of room for a lack of clarity.

When there will be a need to apply the clauses of the agreement (for better or for worse) many questions will arise and need explanation. Explanation is an additional opening for not adhering to agreements.

Despite the claim that membership in any pact does not necessarily restrict the ability of the countries involved to act (for example: Turkey in Cyprus, France in developing nuclear weapons, and so on), it is very hard to convince oneself that a mutual pact permits the sides the same freedom of action as exists without an agreement.

Up to now we were proud of the position that we are not asking U.S. troops to fight on our land. We always said: Give us the means--we will do the work; we do not want the blood of your sons to be spilt on our land. We are convinced that we are a loyal ally of the United States, we are the most stable prop for the interests of Western society in our area--but we do not want to demand any price for this. On the contrary, we want to contribute our share.

Such a position has always strengthened us and our position in the United States. If today there are those who claim (and not rightly) that Israel is a burden and not an asset, when a pact is signed demanding the stationing of U.S. troops on our land, permanently--those who complain will have more weight.

The most serious and weighty reasoning against a mutual defense pact with the United States actually touches on our internal life--the social and economic aspects.

It is no secret that even today we are witnessing a process of economic and social degeneration. We are becoming more and more a Levantine society. Sacred values of volunteering, independent work, fulfillment, economic independence, nondependence on others--all these have passed away, almost, from the world and no longer exist for many of us. We are rapidly becoming a materialistic society, without uniqueness or vision.

There is no doubt that such a pact, which would turn us into a part of a great, giant, system, would have a negative psychological effect on the public. There would be someone to rely on. There would be no need to make an effort--and the small amount of qualitative uniqueness that still is left will also be in danger.

This is a very heavy price which cannot be altered. It strengthens a process which contradicts our national interest. More uniqueness and more effort to make, ourselves, what is for ourselves is what we need. We do not need an atmosphere of dependence and assimilation.

In this article, I have brought up several points for consideration, study and examination. The question, of course, is not purely theoretical. If and when the Americans agree to sign a mutual defense pact with us, it will be in a more comprehensive context.

In return for a pact, we will have to pay. The price will be in the form of giving up national security and other values. Whoever has to decide on this must consider very well indeed and ask himself over and over: Is the price not too high? Will we not come out with a loss? And let us not forget that such a proposal was put forward for the first time by Senator Fulbright, who is not marked by an excess of sympathy for Israel. And let us also remember that his above-mentioned proposal was at the time put forward in the same breath as a demand for an imposed solution!

A mutual military pact is a pretty, tempting idea--but it is also a trap, filled with dangers--and action should be taken with forethought.

TZIPORI SAYS NO WITHDRAWAL FROM SAMARIA, JUDAEA RIDGES

TA262110 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 26 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori says that no agreement will take the IDF and the Jewish settlements down from the Samaria Heights and Judaea. He said that Judaea and Samaria are the heart of Israel and that those who sit on the ridges control the country. Nevertheless, Tzipori expressed the hope that the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt will indeed be signed. The deputy defense minister spoke at Bar Ilan University this evening. He added that Israel is sufficiently strong today to stand up to the Arab countries if they try to destroy it. Tzipori said that the Arab countries bordering Israel today have more tanks and planes than all West European countries have against the Soviet Army.

PORI POLL ON SETTLEMENTS AS OBSTACLE TO PEACE

TA261821 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Feb 79 p 3 TA

[Text] Compared with last year, today less people think that establishing additional settlements in Judaea and Samaria might constitute a major obstacle to reaching a peace settlement but the majority of the public still thinks that establishing new settlements indeed constitutes a major obstacles to reaching peace. This is the result of a national public opinion poll carried out by the Pori Institute at the request of HA'ARETZ.

Of those questioned, 48 percent said that establishing additional settlements in the West Bank can be a major obstacle to reaching peace, as against 55.1 percent who thought so last year.

Compared with 27.5 percent in March 1978, 29.3 percent currently think that establishing new settlements will not constitute an obstacle.

As against 7.8 percent in March 1978, 11.4 percent said that establishing additional settlements "may perhaps" be an obstacle to peace.

In March 1978, 9.6 percent said they "did not know" whether establishing additional settlements would or would not constitute a major obstacle to achieving peace. Now, 11.3 percent said so. The poll included a representative cross section of 1,200 men and women, 18 years of age and above, who were individually interviewed at their homes all over the country.

LARGE SABOTAGE DEVICE FOUND, DISMANTLED IN JERUSALEM

TA261433 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 26 Feb 79 TA

[Text] A large sabotage device was found and dismantled without causing any damage at the Mahane Yehuda market in Jerusalem. The charge was lying near a shop on 'Etz Hayim Street and the shopowner, Shlomo Kohen, who went to remove some garbage about half an hour ago, found it. Our correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that the police closed the market at once, a bomb disposal expert arrived on the scene and dismantled the charge. At the moment border police personnel are combing Mahane Yehuda market and it has already been reopened to traffic. Jerusalem Police Commander Sevi Ben-Eliyahu praised the shopowner and called on shoppers to increase their vigilance.

LATE REPORT: BEGIN DECIDES NOT TO ATTEND SUMMIT

TA271317 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1301 GMT 27 Feb 79 TA

[Statement read by Prime Minister Menahem Begin upon conclusion of 27 February extraordinary Cabinet session--live, in English]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, the foreign minister and the members of the Israeli delegation reported to the Cabinet on the talks at Camp David. It is now evident to the Cabinet that in those talks no progress was made towards an Israeli-Egyptian agreement. On the contrary, a more extreme position was presented by the Egyptian delegation. In addition to the previous Egyptian proposals which were unacceptable to Israel, new proposals were made which are inconsistent with the Camp David agreement of September 17, 1978, and, in fact, nullify the meaning of the peace treaty between the two countries. The Israeli delegation put forward counterproposals which were rejected by the other side. Prime Minister Khalil insisted upon the Egyptian proposals referred to above. Under these circumstances the Cabinet decided that the prime minister is not in a position to participate in the proposed meeting with Dr Khalil. The government has empowered the prime minister to write a letter to President Carter giving the detailed reasons for the Cabinet's decision. The prime minister is prepared at any time convenient to President Carter to leave for the United States to meet with the President to discuss matters relating to the peacemaking process--regional issues in the context of recent developments and questions concerning the bilateral relations between the United States and Israel. This decision was adopted by the Cabinet by a majority. Fourteen members voted in favor and two against. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

WEIZMAN STILL OPTIMISTIC ABOUT PEACE WITH EGYPT

TA271103 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 Feb 79 pp 1, 8 TA

[Telegraphed by Ron Ben-Yishay, YEDI'OT AHARONOT correspondent in Washington]

[Excerpts] Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman said that he supports a defense pact between the United States and moderate Arab countries such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt "on condition that this will lead to stability in the Middle East, prevent a Soviet takeover and will not be destructive to Israel."

Weizman said that the United States must defend the oil fields in Saudi Arabia and for this purpose a demonstration of maritime presence is not enough. According to him, the crisis in Iran is the leading problem in the Middle East. "The United States must examine all the mistakes made in Iran by all the parties," the defense minister said, adding: "It is a question of whether it was right to continuously talk about the natural resources in Iran while at the same time pressing for the maintenance of human rights there. What happened in Iran happened because the United States did not grant the shah the support it should have granted him." Weizman also had an optimistic assessment to offer: "It is highly probable that we shall watch the end of Khomeyni the way we watched Bakhtiar's." Regarding the peace talks with Egypt the minister said: "I believe that the peace talks will be positively concluded. The crisis in Iran further emphasizes the need for an Israeli-Egyptian peace agreement. The forces now acting in the region will bring us together. I believe that our future and the Egyptians' future are interconnected."

REPORTAGE ON EVENTS, INCIDENTS OF 26 FEBRUARY

Tabriz Calm

LD261222 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tabriz enjoyed complete calm last night, compared with other nights. According to a PARS report, apart from a few shooting incidents at houses belonging to counterrevolutionary elements, the city was calm. According to this same report, the homafaran air force technicians committee reports that as a result of the alertness of the revolutionary fighters, another group of counterrevolutionaries has been arrested and handed over to the Imam Khomeyni committee in Tabriz. Some weapons were also seized following this arrest. The Imam Khomeyni committee in Tabriz has once again appealed to the local populace to adhere to instructions issued by their eminences, especially those of Imam Khomeyni, and to avoid any personal hostilities, thus avoiding troubles for families. According to these instructions, no one should attack any house.

Mahabad Explosions

LD261136 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The publication and communications committee of the Islamic Revolution Council in Orumiyeh today denied rumors in connection with the bombing of certain rural areas in Mahabad. In a telephone conversation, a spokesman for the council reported that the investigations of a delegation sent to Mahabad from Orumiyeh determined that the explosions there were caused by a group of local people setting off grenades seized from the Mahabad garrison. As a result of this experiment by the people in the hills around Mahabad, rumors spread that Mahabad suburbs had been bombed.

March in Sanandaj

LD261141 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Following the publication of a 7-point resolution by representatives of the Kurdish people, a march took place in Sanandaj this morning in support of the resolution, and that of Sheykh Ezeddin Hosenyni, the Mahabad jom'eh imam. Participating in the march were boys and girls, workers and other classes of people in Sanandaj.

Refinery Fire

LD261215 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] PARS reports that at 1040 this morning there was a fire at the Tehran oil refinery which was eventually brought under control 45 minutes later by the refinery's firemen. The cause of the fire was a technical problem in one of the furnaces. Following this incident, the unit has been temporarily closed. However, this will not affect the production capacity of the refinery. A committee is investigating the cause of the fire.

Air Force Chief of Staff

LD261240 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The public relations office chief of staff of the National Iranian Islamic Army announced today that effective 25 February 1979, Brig Gen Afsar Imanian has been appointed chief of staff of the Iranian Islamic Air Force.

Retired Colonels

LD261311 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The imam propaganda committee released an announcement today. This announcement, issued by the supervisor of the judicial department of the National Iranian Islamic Army, says that in accordance with Article 100 of the Armed Forces Employment Law, the following persons, who had returned to service in the armed forces on 20 February, are to end their terms of service:

Col Abolqasem Kavian;
Col Abolqasem Zinat;
Col Mohammad Reza Mottaqian;
Col Asghar Kiamanesh;
Col Majid Piruzbakhsh;
Col Hamid Azarnush;
Col Mohammad Qoli Ameli;
Col Manuchehr Ardalan;
Col Teymur Vosuqi;
Col Abolfazl Fazilizadeh;
Col Hasan Safakish;
Col Parviz Akram;
Col Hamidollah Azimi;
Col Nasrollah Adabi-Qajar;
Col Yahya Naser Mostofi

The judicial department of the National Iranian Islamic Army used to be known as the army's judiciary.

Shiraz University

DO261800 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1605 GMT 26 Feb 79 DO

[Summary] "Dear listeners, you are hearing our voice from Shiraz, the Fars Islamic revolution radio. Now please listen to the announcement from Shiraz University: On the basis of the success of the professors and students, the classes of the various colleges of this university will begin on Saturday, 12 Esfand [3 March]."

"The dear students are invited to come to their college as soon as possible to arrange their study program." Students will not need to go through prior registration procedures, as they will continue the classes they had begun in the first semester. They will have 2 weeks to decide whether to cancel or continue their classes. There will be no minimum course load this semester. Students who for any reason cannot participate this semester, will have their classes canceled, but this semester will not be counted as one of their academic years.

Ayatollah Dastghayb Address

DO261930 [Editorial Report DO] Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian at 1608 GMT on 26 February carries the 20 minute address of His Eminence Haj Seyyed 'Abdolhoseyn Dastghayb. The radio states: "Yesterday evening this learned and struggling religious leader of the people of Fars delivered a message concerning the nature of the Islamic Revolution of Fars Province." In his message, the ayatollah stresses that the people "should know that the only reason for our rapid progress has been the unity of speech and the agreement of all classes of people."

"All strata of people cried out together with one heart and one direction, even though they were unarmed and the enemy was equipped with the most awesome weapons." The people were patient in the face of the machine guns and cannons. They turned to God in order to establish a just order, and a righteous Islamic government in Iran.

The ayatollah states that, now as then unity is needed, "But no longer in the form of demonstrations, confusion in the streets." Now patience is required, "so that a split does not occur between the social classes." Do not cause disputes among yourselves! Through its action Iran has brought itself glory. Disputes and fights among us will tarnish and destroy the glory and the enemy will take advantage of you. Arguments and demands are a weapon in the hands of the enemy, he says.

The ayatollah cites the Koran frequently in favor of forgiveness and kindness of one person towards another, "especially towards the government and its institutions." The ayatollah says that law and order must be preserved, and anyone who disturbs the peace is a traitor. The settling of accounts must be done in an atmosphere of tranquility. If the tranquility is destroyed, opportunists will come to take advantage of the situation. Try to maintain the objectives of service to the people and the country. The progress of the revolution is dependent on respect for all moral principles. "In every office and in every government institution the principals of moral life must be followed. People must be good to each other," he says.

The ayatollah states: "There are various kinds of terrorism. Antirevolutionary activity is not just belonging to a particular party." Anyone who is trying to settle his personal accounts in his office to meet his own ends is a traitor. "Today is not the time for seeking revenge." "Now is the time for forgiveness." "Forgiveness is not a sign of weakness." Forgiveness, respect and kindness are called for in the Koran and by the prophet. We should all be friends without interest in who is boss and who is the follower." As in any organization, the principles of discipline must be followed. Everyone must respect the directions of his superiors. Discipline and the chain of command in every institution must be observed. Today is not the time for calling people names like "traitor," or rejecting a person's authority.

"Now I also have a few instructions for the Iranian Army." In the previous regime the military was not free; "They were the prisoners of American advisors." "Now they are free and beloved, the respected crown of God's host." You are the guardians of the souls and property of the nation. You must protect the security of the nation. "If there is no Iranian Army, then there is no Islamic army." There are a few things that should be remembered about the military. First, all echelons of the army--whether homafar or other segments--are respected. Even those who retreated and only later joined the nation are also in the final analysis respected. Of course, those who joined us first have favor, but that does not mean that those who retreated are without value. The retreat of the army was not a result of weakness, but because of respect for the nation and recognition of duty. Those who surrendered should be respected by God and the nation. "Of course the strugglers have greater dignity; those who fought the holy war shoulder to shoulder with the nation" have special merit. But the dignity of this group does not mean that those who surrendered are without status.

The ayatollah stresses that:

First, undermining the morale of the army of Iran will be considered as treason against the nation, Islam and the Muslims.

Second, the Iranian nation is well aware of the problems of the military, and it respects all those who are protecting this country. In this regard, no difference is recognized between the various units of the military.

Third, the revolutionary army is an army in which more discipline shall be observed. This is absolutely necessary; if not, opportunists will take advantage of the situation. Disputes in the military must be avoided. Soldiers must give absolute allegiance to their officers. In other words, the military must be disciplined. All segments of the military must work together and that is the most important thing. Do not listen to anyone who is trying to destroy unity and discipline. Maintain your equanimity and wait for instructions from the government and senior officers before taking action.

Both in the military and in civilian positions, there is no reason for people to fear for the future. Everyone will be given a task and all will be used. No one will be fired, and all will be cared for in the future, as all classes work together. Be patient with one another, forgive one another. All this division and dissension must be set aside. Let us all work together for the success of Iran, he says.

NIOC Director Comments

LD262032 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Mr Hasan Nazih, managing director of NIOC, at a gathering of about 15,000 Abadan oil industry workers at the Abadan refinery, this afternoon described the future oil policies of Iran. In his remarks, he referred to the abuses of oil revenue in the past and said: Under the previous regime $30 million a year used to be paid from the oil industry budget to various individuals who had no official position in NIOC. He added: A large number of people received payments from the NIOC budget while they were employed at the offices of the former shah's brothers as stewards or such. The NIOC managing director also said: Just as there has been an extensive purge in the army, NIOC too has prepared programs to oust corrupt elements. So far 400 have been identified and will be dismissed soon.

23d Brigade Supervisor

LD261750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Effective 26 February 1979, Army Staff Lt Col Fereydun Kian has been nominated and appointed temporary supervisor of the 23d Brigade.

[Signed] General Staff of the National Iranian Islamic Army.

Army Appointments, Orders

LD261750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] In the name of God, with effect from 21 February 1979 the following appointments have been made in the capital's 2d army division, formerly the guard division:

Army Staff Col Iraj Nikzad is temporary supervisor of the 2d Army Division. Army Staff Col Hasan Malek-Mo'ezzi is temporary supervisor of the Qasr-e Firuzeh Brigade. Army Staff Col Mohsen Shoja'i-Far is temporary supervisor of the 'Eshratabad Brigade. Col Zeynol 'Abedin Varsowsaz is temporary supervisor of the Qasr Brigade.

Meanwhile, all the officers and the NCO's of the 2d Army Division are required to report to their garrisons and bases at 0800 on Tuesday, 27 February 1979.

[Signed] General Staff of the National Iranian Islamic Army.

Appeal to Military

ID261800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Feb 79 ID

[Text] In the name of the Almighty, certain material has been recently appearing in the country's press, including today's issue of AYANDEGAN, which is attributed to a statement by the revolutionary personnel of the armed forces calling the military personnel to a meeting. Since the Muslim, revolutionary, committed and faithful personnel of the army have no objective other than to see the objectives of the Iranian Islamic revolution fully achieved, it is hereby announced that military personnel may submit any views and proposals they might have directly to the Islamic revolution committees of the related garrisons, so that these views and proposals may be studied in line with the principles of the revolution and implemented if the committees approve them. Obviously, any gathering of military personnel outside the garrisons, which is being raised by nonresponsible individuals, runs counter to the revolutionary objectives of the National Iranian Islamic Army. All military personnel committed to the Iranian Islamic revolution are expected at this crucial moment in our country's history to work for the full achievement of the objectives of the Iranian Islamic revolution by maintaining order and observing discipline.

[Signed] General Staff of the National Iranian Islamic Army.

Commerce Minister's Statement

ID261858 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Feb 79 ID

[Text] Mr Reza Sadr, commerce minister of the provisional government of the Iranian Islamic revolution, described the highlights of the Commerce Ministry's policies and programs at a meeting of the ministry staff today. The commerce minister said: From the internal point of view, the Ministry of Commerce is dutybound primarily to bear in mind the rights of the weaker members of the community, the workers, the peasants, the small retailers and millions of people who depend upon the government's commercial policy for their material and spiritual development. The ministry must bring about conditions which will guarantee the rights of these people, who are shouldering the colossal burden of the country's economy. The ministry is also dutybound to create moral and material incentives which will activate the country's creative ability to save the country from economic bankruptcy. He added: In light of the fact that man, if he is given awareness and freedom, is a creature that is able to be creative, he is dutybound to fight against any form of exploitation and to motivate the country's creative forces, ranging from workers and peasants to businessmen.

The commerce minister said: From the standpoint of foreign trade, our attitude toward other countries will be based on equality and mutual respect, and will reflect our genuine culture and subjective philosophy. In conclusion, the minister of commerce referred to the high cost in blood paid by the Iranian nation in order to bring the revolution to fruition. He said: Let us show the world that the stains of shame have been washed away by the blood of our martyrs, and that through our example we will never again allow the ill repute that was inflicted upon us by the Pahlavi dynasty to be cast over us again.

Regional Appointments

LD261916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] An Interior Ministry spokesman has announced that on orders from Interior Minister Ahmed Sadr Haj Sayyed-Javadi, the following appointments have been made at the Interior Ministry:

Dr Nosratollah Goruji	Governor general of Hormozgan Province
Engineer Asghar Ma'navi	Acting governor general of Sistan and Baluchestan
Dr Esma'il Ardalan	Acting governor general of Western Azarbayjan
Dr Hamid Bahrami	Acting governor general of Kerman Province
'Abdolmajid Irani-Nezhad	Acting governor general of Qahramanshahr [Kermanshah]
Qasem Khoda Dust	Acting governor general of the state statistical organization
Retired Brigadier Jalal Alborzi	Interior minister's special adviser
Yusof Yazdani	Acting governor general of the Amol Governorate

Ahvaz Oil Flow Disrupted

LD262048 Tehran in English to Europe 2000 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Sunday night there was an attempt by some unidentified people to disrupt the oil flow in Ahvaz. This was foiled, according to reports reaching the capital. The men involved were reported to have turned off the tap of the [word indistinct] pipeline at Al-Baji pumping house near Ahvaz, but they were neutralized due to timely action taken by the patriotic people of the area, informed sources said. No major damage was reported. Investigations are under way.

Oil Exports

LD262050 Tehran in English to Europe 2000 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Oil exports are expected to resume at the beginning of next week and will be sold to the highest bidder through direct sale by the NIOC. Highly placed oil company sources said last night that exports would probably get underway on Sunday or Monday next week. They said the date may be announced by the new NIOC managing director, Hasan Nasih, at a press conference tomorrow morning at the company's Tehran headquarters [passage indistinct].

NIOC previously exported some oil directly, but it was in small quantities in comparison to the bulk of exports which were handled by the consortium. The sources said the oil would be sold to the highest bidder. They said a barrel of Iran's most sought-after crude, Agha Jari light, could bring as much as $24 a barrel, which was based on the Iraqi oil (?price) at present on the spot market. The OPEC price for the same barrel of crude is just under $14. The sources said that Nazih had held meetings with a number of foreign ambassadors in the past few days, including the Japanese and several Western envoys.

POLISARIO DELEGATION ARRIVES, RECEIVED BY KHOMEYNI

LD262122 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 26 Feb 79 LD

[Text] A POLISARIO front delegation arrived in Tehran today on a friendly visit to Iran. This evening the delegation was received by the leader of the Iranian revolution, Imam Khomeyni. During the talk that took place between Khomeyni and the Saharan delegation, the Iranian leader emphasized that the Iranian revolution is committed to stand by the Islamic peoples in their struggle for freedom and liberation.

QOTBZADEH MAKES STATEMENT TO JORDANIAN PAPER

JN261250 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 26 Feb 79 pp 1, 12 JN

[By Nasr al-Majali and Fernando Francis]

[Text] Tehran--In an exclusive interview with the AR-RA'Y team, Sadiq Qotbzadeh, director of Iranian Radio and Television and one of the most important aides of Ayatollah Khomeyni, has said that the Iranian Islamic revolution is looking forward to establishing firm relations with the Arab and Islamic countries. He further said that the revolution will support all Arabs, particularly those confronting Israel, regardless of the fact that certain Arab regimes have stood against our revolution since it erupted.

Qotbzadeh said: "Our relations with Syria are good. The Arabs are our brothers and the revolution will do its utmost to support them." He also said that Iran will become Islamic according to general elections. There will no longer be a provisional government after that.. He said that the government will be established on Islamic laws. The new constitution will be ready within the next 2 months. Many ulemas and jurists are currently drafting the new constitution. The new government will not be headed by men of religion, but will be handed to politicians. The Khomeyni committees which are running the people's affairs will be dissolved once the government reorganizes the army and police.

NVOI ON ARMING REVOLUTIONARIES, U.S. MIDEAST POLICY

TA240310 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran on 17 February carries two commentaries. The first calls for unity and vigilance against counterrevolutionary plots. It says:

"There are presently many individuals who for many years because of their progressive and liberal ideas and their lack of support for the previous rotten regime were kept in prisons or forced to retire. Among them are many of the patriotic officers of the armed forces who have been assigned by the revolutionary government to assist the new regime and to train and cooperate with the revolutionaries. Unfortunately, in recent days certain undesirable and dishonest elements have been able to obtain weapons.

But this does not mean that the patriotic and true revolutionaries who have been in the frontlines of this battle should lay down their weapons. There is still a danger of counterrevolutionary plots against the people of Iran, and as long as a truly strong revolutionary army has not been organized, it is the duty of these patriots, regardless of their political differences, to fight together for this goal. But, to disarm these fighting revolutionaries and on the other hand arm the opposite forces and create a confrontation between these two forces, will not benefit the Iranian revolution. Every action that might be taken to create division and factionalism among the ranks of the revolutionaries must be fought and crushed. As His Eminence Imam Khomeyni has repeatedly stated, in order to protect the victories and gains of the revolution, a sense of unity and togetherness among all factions and groups of the revolution is of vital importance. Past experiences must be our lessons in safeguarding the unity of the groups of revolutionaries."

The second commentary is on U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown's recent trip to the Middle East and the loss of U.S. monitoring installations in Iran. It says:

"The loss of its military base in Iran has for American imperialism meant a defeat of its aggressive policies. Therefore, studies and plans are underway in Washington to establish various political and military bases in the Middle East and gulf region. The U.S. can no longer loot the resources of Iran. The nullificiation of pertinent pacts, including the loss of the seven electronic radar-tracking systems, means a loss of $12 billion for the U.S. which can now be used in Iran for the revolutionary goals of the people. Our people demand the voiding and rejection of all pacts and treaties. Above all, the Americans are worried about the loss of their strategic positions in our country. Their intelligence apparatus utilized our country to check and control all of the liberation movements throughout the region. The victory of our revolution has clearly upset and worried the American authorities. Americans had created strong ties between their long-term reactionary and colonialist goals and the shah's regime. The two most powerful tools for these objectives were SAVAK and the Imperial Guards who were forced by our fighting revolutionaries to retreat and surrender. That is why Washington is presently making every effort to recuperate from this defeat. The trip by the U.S. defense secretary to the region must be analysed from this viewpoint. One must not forget that there are still thousands of American agents in our country plotting against the provisional revolutionary government. They are trying to establish new bases in order to offset their losses in our country. Among the places they hope to establish bases are in such places as Israel, Saudi Arabia and Dahran. The Pentagon is trying very hard to reach agreements with the leaders of some of these countries in order to recoup their losses so that the U.S. can continue playing the role of gendarme in the region."

NVOI WARNS AGAINST U.S. PLOTS, CALLS FOR UNITY

TA261340 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1945 GMT on 23 February carries a commentary which warns the revolutionary forces against "the enemies of the people," and refers to a Tudeh Party statement on this issue. The commentary says:

Strengthening the revolution is the duty of all freedom-loving people. The aim of the forces which are hostile to the revolution and of their imperialist agents is to undermine the revolutionary achievements in every possible way. "These forces are spread everywhere in our country and their number is not small. These days they are present at every meeting and in every circle." Under the revolution's heavy and deadly blows, a regime has been overthrown by the country's military, political, social and economic forces, and a new regime has taken over. So the supporters of the former regime are in a confused state.

This is not unusual--it is something which happens in all revolutions. Now the important thing for the revolutionaries is to protect and preserve the revolution, and to strengthen it further. This requires unity and solidarity.

Our country's religious leaders have on various occasions called for maintenance of unity and solidarity. National front leader Karim Sanjabi and other political leaders have also made similar calls. "The Tudeh Party has also stressed that unity and solidarity are essential for the final victory of the Iranian people's revolution. As part of this, the Tudeh Party approves of His Holiness Khomeyni's call on the people to maintain unity." Furthermore, "all forces supporting the country's independence and freedom must maintain their unity and solidarity. Only in this way can the people's national revolution be further strengthened."

During this first stage of the revolution, workers, peasants, religious leaders and all national and democratic forces have made unprecedented sacrifices. "Unity and solidarity among these forces and their constant vigilance will constitute a major obstacle against any antirevolutionary plot."

The radio then carries another commentary which says: "Our national forces have directed their struggle at the elimination of the remnants of the imperial regime and the uprooting of the deadly U.S. assaults and influence." It goes on to say that "forgetting that he has supported the shah's regime and Bakhtiar, Mr Carter now says that the United States is prepared to cooperate with Mr Bazargan's government."

Furthermore, "American agents, in cooperation with the remnants of SAVAK, are preparing new plots against the revolution and the Iranian nation. The agents of the CIA, SAVAK and supporters of the shah are trying to penetrate the revolutionary forces. The United States has been concentrating its efforts to creating distrust, discord and division among the various groups of the Iranian national and democratic movement."

Not only in Iran, but in all countries in the Near East, the United States wants to crush all national independence movements. "Despite this, the nations in the area are continuing their struggles designed to rid themselves completely of the reactionary regimes and American exploitation."

NVOI WARNS OF U.S. EFFORT TO CREATE NEW MILITARY PACTS

TA261432 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 24 February carries a commentary warning the Iranian nation against "hypocrites who, posing as revolutionaries, are trying to create discord among revolutionary ranks." The commentary says: "Under the prevailing circumstances it has become more complicated and difficult to wage a struggle against those who are opposed to the nation's national and Islamic revolution and independence and (?the provisional) government." Some of the enemies of the revolution and of the Iranian nation are making use of hypocrisy, and through hypocritical pretensions have succeeded in coming closer to national and religious leaders and to certain authoritative persons.

Various groups, parties and personalities have waged the struggle and made sacrifices to overthrow the shah's evil regime. "Now the struggle must be sustained in order to foil every plot by the former regime's agents and their American masters. This is the task falling upon every patriotic and free Iranian. The unity and solidarity of the people and the national forces must be strengthened. Only by further strengthening the forces which are loyal to the revolution and to the national Islamic republic can the plots of the former regime's officials and hypocrites be foiled."

The radio then carries a second commentary on "U.S. activities in neighboring countries." The commentary says:

With the collapse of the shah's bloodshedding regime, the United States has intensified its political and diplomatic activities in the countries neighboring Iran. As a result of our nation's national, democratic and Islamic revolution, the United States has lost its hostile bases in Iran. It therefore wants to expand its bases in Saudi Arabia, Oman, Turkey and Pakistan.

"Our country's threat to withdraw from CENTO has created a problem for the Pentagon and the United States which had sponsored that pact. In order to strengthen positions in the Middle East, the United States wants to establish a new military alliance with the participation of Egypt and Israel, and with the financial help of Saudi Arabia. It also wants to expand its bases on the Saudi Arabian coast, on Oman's Al-Masirah Island and on Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean." The United States wants to crush all democratic and anti-imperialist movements in our region, and with the help of the Saudi leaders to become the gendarme of the Middle East. The United States intends to supply Saudi Arabia with more war planes, heavy tanks and long-range artillery. On the other hand, the traitor Sultan Qabus of Oman has increased purchases of planes, and has more British (?personnel), because after the removal of Iranian soldiers he fears the Oman nation's independence movement.

"U.S. Secretary of Defense Brown said in Saudi Arabia that As-Sadat and Saudi leaders should eliminate their differences concerning a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, in the interests of the Palestine nation and of the Arabs. Events in our country have made the leaders of the Saudi monarchy uneasy. And that barbaric monarchy's leaders are prepared, in cooperation with the United States, to do anything that will save their reactionary regime. Like the hated shah, they are even prepared to take over the role of gendarme. But the Arab Emirates in the Persian Gulf are not prepared to play a role which will serve U.S. imperialism's aggressive aims and interests. Kuwait's foreign minister has declared, for example, that Kuwait is opposed to the creation of a (?military) alliance opposed to the country's interests. What the Kuwaiti foreign minister (?meant) was the military alliance which the U.S. wants to establish under Saudi Arabian (?leadership).

"The United States also wants to create fear in Turkey and Pakistan, our neighbors." The United States wants to expand its bases in Turkey. "In Pakistan, the United States is cooperating with its Chinese allies. The United States has resumed its military aid to Pakistan, and construction of military roads has begun near the Indian frontier. This will intensify the military conflict between India and Pakistan."

The commentary goes on to charge that "in countries which were friendly to Iran, the United States has made great use of the CIA and its domestic agents in order to destroy democratic and anti-imperialist movements. In our country, too, U.S. imperialism pursued a similar policy."

From 1745 to 1815 GMT on 25 February NVOI carried a commentary stressing that "a national army is needed to protect the people's achievements. This army must come from the people and must be in the service of the people. It can thus secure the future and protect the revolutionary achievements. Such an army should be composed of those who have waged the struggle against the ousted regime and who are loyal to the revolution. It must also be established by those who have had no connections with the ousted regime and U.S. military advisers."

The radio then carries another commentary apparently setting out the Iranian people's tasks in the new regime.

AFGHANISTAN

FIGHTING REPORTED BETWEEN ARMY, MUSLIM REBELS

BK240130 Hong Kong AFP in English 0119 GMT 24 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Peshawar, 23 Feb (AFP)--The provincial governor of Samangan, northern Afghanistan, has been killed together with the deputy commissioner of a district in the same province and the chief of the provincial security forces during the fighting between Muslim rebels and the Afghan army, Hezbe Islami sources said here tonight.

Hizbe Islami is an organisation of Muslim refugees Afghanistan [as received] which has its headquarters here. It claims that the Muslims in that country are opposing the leftwing government of President and Prime Minister Nur Mohammad Taraki who ousted President Daud in a bloody coup in April last year.

According to sources, the fighting erupted a few days ago when the security forces tried to arrest an influential Muslim leader in Samangan. The governor, Mr Allah Dad Toofan, had come by helicopter to assess the situation along with the deputy commissioner but he was reported "missing" by government sources. He died during the clashes in which several other senior officers and army men were also killed, the sources added.

BANGLADESH

PRESIDENT LEAVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO IRAQ

BK270528 Dacca Overseas Service in English 0445 GMT 27 Feb 79 BK

[Text] President Zia left Dacca this morning on a 3-day state visit to Iraq at the invitation of President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr. Talking to newsmen at the airport the president said this is primarily a good will visit.

During his stay in Iraq he will have talks with President Hasan al-Bakr on bilateral, economic and international issues. President Zia said Iraq is one of the first countries to recognize Bangladesh and both the countries have been maintaining good relations. He said the visit will further consolidate the bonds of friendship between the two countries.

The president said the volume of trade between Bangladesh and Iraq is expected to expand following his visit. There are many Bangladeshis, especially technicians, working in Iraq. More will be sent in the future. President Zia said an agreement on the export of manpower from Bangladesh is expected to be signed during his stay in Iraq.

Before going to Iraq the president will go to Saudi Arabia to perform umrah at Mecca and Ziyarat at the holy shrine of Prophet Hazrat Mohammad at Medina.

AWAMI LEAGUE CHIEF ALLEGES ELECTION RIGGED

BK261313 Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 21 Feb 79 pp 1, 12 BK

[Excerpt] Mr Abdul Malek Ukil, President of the Bangladesh Awami League [AL] (Malek), on Tuesday alleged that "workers of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and its hired hoodlums on the election day created a reign of terror" at different areas of the country through "intimidation, coercion, stabbing and beating the voters and AL workers", reports BSS [BANGLADESH SANGBAD SANGSTHA].

Addressing a press conference at the party's central office in Dacca, Mr Malek Ukil said two AL workers, Mafizur Rahman and Mumtaxuddin who had received serious injuries during attacks by BNP workers on them at Mirpur and Arathazar police stations died at the Dacca Medical College hospital and at Araihazar respectively on Tuesday.

Terming the election as being "rigged on a mass scale" Mr Malek Ukil said in many polling centres agents of AL candidates were forced to leave and ballot boxes were not opened before the polls began.

Mr Malek Ukil alleged that in 60 polling centres of Narsingdi and in some centres of Noakhaili, polling agents of his party candidates were not allowed to stay at the centres.

He further alleged that in some centres presiding or polling officers themselves put seal on the ballot papers. Citing examples, he said an AL candidate from Dacca-15 constituency, Begum Sajeda Chowdhury, "caught red handed" a presiding officer Shah Alam in Railway Primary School Centre in the city while he was putting seal on ballot papers. Another polling officer of Curzon Hall Centre was handed over to police for malpractice during the polling.

Mr Malek Ukil said the working committee of the AL would sit on Friday to decide the party's next course of action on elections.

Asked if he would accept the verdict of the people in the election in totality, Mr Malek Ukil said "how could it be accepted when it is not fair."

Replying to another question, the AL chief claimed "the opposition would secure more than 200 seats if the election was free and fair."

He told a questioner that the government had a soft corner for the Muslim League[ML] when he was asked to comment on the success of ML-IDL [Islamic Democratic League] candidates.

Mr Malek Ukil said the division of the AL had not affected the organisation.

INDIA

KYODO: BORDER FORCES PLACED ON 'GENERAL ALERT'

OW240807 Tokyo KYODO in English 0003 GMT 24 Feb 79 OW

[Text] New Delhi, 24 Feb (KYODO)--The Indian armed forces on the Chinese border have been put on a "general alert" as the Sino-Vietnamese war continues unabated.

Informed sources told KYODO NEWS SERVICE Saturday that it was a normal precautionary measure on the 2,400 mile-long sensitive border with China.

The sources said the Indian mountain army in the eastern sector generally raises its level of vigil in the border provinces of Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh where Indian and Chinese troops are separated by barbed wire fences.

The sources added that the Indo-Chinese border was quiet.

Indian military experts, meanwhile, said Chinese forces that were penetrating deep into Vietnamese soil would find it "extremely tough" to extricate themselves, unlike in the 1962 invasion of India when the Chinese halted their troops on the foothills before making a swift retreat.

They said the Vietnamese troops were not defending their "forward positions" as India had done in 1962 but were dug in rear defense perimeters to keep fighting idefinitely.

All the same, Indian experts believed that China would unilaterally end the fighting in the next four or five days after creating maximum damage to factories and installations on the Vietnam side.

SRV ASKS VAJPAYEE FOR NONALINED NATIONS' SUPPORT

BK240836 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 24 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The Vietnamese foreign minister, Mr Nguyen Duy Trinh, has written a letter to the external affairs minister, Mr Vajpayee, seeking the support of the nonalined nations in his country's struggle with China. He is understood to have expressed the hope that the nonalined movement would express sympathy and support for Vietnam and call for the Chinese force's withdrawal from his country.

SPOKESMAN DENIES KNOWLEDGE OF USSR FLIGHTS TO VIETNAM

BK261515 Hong Kong AFP in English 1505 GMT 26 Feb 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 26 Feb (AFP)--A government spokesman here today said he had no knowledge of flights through Calcutta by Soviet and East European airliners carrying military supplies to Vietnam.

The spokesman was commenting on press reports here that a special Soviet Aeroflot transport plane and a chartered Bulgarian Balkan airliner had made stopovers at Calcutta Airport on Sunday on their way to Hanoi with supplies.

The reports also quoted Washington reports that Soviet planes had begun ferrying supplies to Hanoi to help Vietnam in her fight against Chinese forces.

RAM RULES OUT SUPPLYING MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO VIETNAM

BK251317 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The defense minister, Mr Jagjivan Ram, has stressed the need for mobilizing international opinion to bring an early end to the Sino-Vietnamese conflict. Speaking to newsmen in Amritsar today, Mr Jagjivan Ram ruled out any supply of military equipment to Vietnam. But, he said, India will build up diplomatic pressure on China to make her vacate aggression.

He also expressed the view that Mr Vajpayee's visit to China was successful.

COURT CONVICTS SANJAY GANDHI, SHUKLA

BK260755 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 26 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The former information and broadcasting minister, Mr V.C. Shukla, and Mr Sanjay Gandhi have been found guilty on all counts in the "Kissa Kursi Ka" [Indian feature film "Story of the Chair"] case. The judgment was pronounced by the district and sessions judge, Mr O.N. Vohra, in New Delhi today. The quantum of punishment will be pronounced tomorrow.

Both Mr V.C. Shukla and Mr Sanjay Gandhi were tried on charges of criminal conspiracy, breach of trust, destruction of the "Kissa Kursi Ka" film by fire, destruction of evidence, receiving stolen property and its concealment. The film, produced by Mr Amrit Nahata, member of parliament, during the preemergency days, was a satire on the functioning of the government.

Pronouncing the judgment, Mr Vohra said evidence showed that Mr Shukla and Mr Gandhi had conspired to destroy the film which had been given to the government. The conspiracy was hatched in secrecy and executed in darkness. Mr Vohra observed that the charges against the accused stand established beyond reasonable doubt. When the judge asked counsels for the accused whether they would argue on the quantum of punishment, they replied they will not. The prosecution also did not want to argue on this point. At this stage the judge observed that enough has been said by both sides during the trial.

The AIR [ALL-INDIA RADIO] correspondent reports that the courtroom was packed to capacity when the judge read out the operative part of his 362-page judgment. As on previous occasions, Mr Sanjay Gandhi was accompanied by a slogan-shouting crowd when he arrived at the Tees Hazari court. Mr Shukla was also present in the court.

CHIEF JUSTICE HAD AGREED TO PROBE CORRUPTION CHARGES

BK261416 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 26 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The consent of the chief justice of India was obtained before the prime minister made a statement in the Rajya Sabha last August agreeing to refer to him the charges of corruption made in writing against his and Mr Charan Singh's family members. This was stated by Law Minister Shanti Bhushan in the Rajya Sabha today when the matter was raised by some opposition members belonging to the Congress-I, the CPI [Communist Party of India] and the Congress.

He said it was only after the full consent of the chief justice was obtained that the prime minister had made the statement in the House. The government, Mr Shanti Bhushan said, is fully conscious of the fact that it would not be proper to follow the precedent created earlier during Jawaharlal Nehru's time unless specific consent of the chief justice was obtained.

PAKISTAN

MUSLIM PARTY CONDEMNS ARRESTS IN AFGHANISTAN

BK241428 Karachi DAWN in English 14 Feb 79 p 4 BK

[Text] Lahore, 13 Feb--The secretary general of Jamaat-i Islami, Qazi Hussain Ahmad, has condemned the arrests of the distinguished shia ulema [religious scholar], Maulana Mohiuddin Bulghi, Mir Ali Ahmad Waiz and 25 others in Afghanistan recently.

The Jamaat secretary-general said that arrests of the ulema after the confinement of Zia-ul-Mushaikh, Maulana Mohammad Ibrahim Almajadidi alias Mullah Shore Bazar and his 80 disciples, including his family members, proved that the Taraki government was retreating and was taking such steps because of the existing confusion in Afghanistan. Such actions of the Afghan Government, he argued, would create further uncertainty and incite the people of that country towards violence.

Qazi Hussain Ahmad, in an appeal, urged ulema of all sects to forget their differences and get united against the atrocities of the Afghan Government against the local ulema.

FOREIGN OFFICE ON INDIAN OBJECTION TO ARMS SALES

BK241739 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Feb 79 BK

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad was today asked to comment on the Indian external affairs minister's statement in the Lok Sabha on Thursday to the effect that India had conveyed to the United States its concern about the danger of arms sales to Pakistan. The Indian minister had also said that any arms sale to Pakistan would only be counterproductive and create instability in the region.

Referring to the statement, the spokesman said that Pakistan could not reconcile India's own acquisition of the most modern and sophisticated offensive weapons, including Jaguar deep-penetration strike aircraft, with its oft-prophesized desire to see a strong and stable Pakistan.

The spokesman recalled that such statements had been made by Mr Vajpayee and other Indian leaders with increasing frequency in the recent past. He dismissed a suggestion that India's sustained campaign against the supply of defense equipment to Pakistan was attributable to India's internal political compulsion. He said obviously this excuse could not justify the baseless insinuation against Pakistan which jeopardized the process of normalization of relations to which both countries were committed.

The spokesman drew attention to the fact that acquisition by India of as many as 200 Jaguar aircraft introduced with it a highly sophisticated and an entirely new offensive weapon system into South Asia. The Jaguar's striking capability covers only the territories of Pakistan and other small neighbors of India, which pose no threat to India's security. He pointed out that India already had a vast arsenal of modern armament and also an indigenous capability of producing offensive weapons on a large scale. Not content with this, India is feverishly acquiring more such weapons abroad. In the light of this dangerous military imbalance which favors India, any statement by India should mislead no one.

The spokesman said it is not Pakistan's modest acquisition of equipment for legitimate self-defense but India's relentless pursuit of military preponderance that highlighted the security concerns of India's small neighbors and created instability and tension in the region.

WORLD ISLAMIC MOVEMENT TO MARK SOLIDARITY WITH IRAN 16 MAR

BK270223 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The world Islamic movement has decided to observe a day of solidarity with the Islamic revolution in Iran on the 16th of next month. This was stated by a member of the delegation of the Islamic movement in Asia, Europe and North America, Dr (Tajami Abdur Rahman al-Juberi), who returned to Karachi this evening after a 3-day visit to Iran. Dr (Tajami) said meetings would be held and prayers offered on the day for the success of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

The amir of Jamaat-i Islami, Mian Tufail Mohammad, who led the delegation, said on return to Karachi today that the delegation offered, on behalf of the Islamic movement, all possible help of experts and workers without cost for the restoration of the damage sustained by the Iranian economy during the recent Islamic movement. They also offered all possible help to Iran to make it a truly Islamic republic.

The leader of the delegation said they also delivered to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni a letter from Maulana Syed Abul Aala Maudoodi [founder of the Jamaat-i Islami]. Ayatollah Khomeyni presented a copy of the holy Koran to the leader of the delegation as a symbol of their solidarity and determination to free Baitul Muqaddar [Jerusalem] from the yoke of the Israelis.

SUPREME COURT BEGINS REVIEWING JUDGMENT ON BHUTTO

BK241155 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 24 Feb 79 BK

[Text] In the Mohammad Ahmad Khan murder case before the Supreme Court today, the defense counsel for Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto began arguments on the petition seeking to review the judgment of the Supreme Court which confirmed the conspiracy and conviction recorded by the Lahore High Court.

Mr Yahya Bakhtiar, who submitted additional grounds for review, argued that the quantum of sentence should be reviewed. He maintained that the abetter is normally awarded lesser punishment than the one who actually committed the offense. He contended that the difference of opinion in the judgment was a sufficient ground for lesser punishment.

Interjecting, the special public prosecutor, Mr Ejaz Husain Batalbi pointed out from case law to support his arguments that the abetter was liable for maximum punishment.

Before Mr Yahya Bakhtiar began his arguments, the chief justice, Mr Justice S. Anwarul Haq, directed that he should confine his submissions within the ambit of the law relating to review cases. He pointed out that he should keep in mind the limited scope involved because all the seven judges had come to the unanimous conclusion that the three members of the FSF [Federal Security Force]--namely Ghulam Mustafa, Arshad Iqbal and Rana Iftikhar--were involved in the firing which took the life of Mohammad Ahmad Khan. All the seven judges have accepted the fact that the incident took place at a particular juncture and that the ammunition used in the commission of the crime belonged to the FSF, and that the approver, Ghulam Husain, was masterminding the operation. One of them had even gone to the extent to say that this man was directly in touch with Masud Mahmud, bypassing Mian Abbas.

The chief justice emphasized that the difference of opinion was about the reliability of Masud Mahmud who connected Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and Mian Abbas.

The hearing of the arguments in the review petition will continue tomorrow.

Earlier this morning, the court directed the issuance of show-cause notices for contempt to the defense lawyers who had appeared during the hearing of the appeal and also to all the members of the Central Executive Committee of the People's Party who had participated in the adoption of a resolution amounting to gross contempt of the court.

About the petition relating to the dispatches by the foreign correspondents representing newspapers and the BBC, the court observed that it is [word indistinct] in all systems of jurisprudence and law that attribution of improper motives to the judges of superior courts clearly amounts to contempt of the court and would normally be actionable.

However, the court said, they find that in most of their reports there are clear indications that they were inspired by certain forces.

Therefore it was sufficient to observe that as educated and enlightened persons they must know that as long as they are in Pakistan it is their duty to respect the institutions of this country as they would expect every other national in their country to respect their institutions. The deliberate or unwarranted sending of dispatches or reports which are tendentious, attribute motives, scandalize and malign the judges of the highest court of Pakistan is an extremely reprehensible act. The court expressed the hope that these correspondents who had full liberty of reporting the proceedings of the court would keep this in mind and would not say anything which is tending to attribute motives to the judges. Such dispatches do not do any service either to Pakistan or to the news agencies which these persons represent.

The court dismissed the petition filed by Mr Abdul Hafiz Pirzada for the recall of Mr Justice Zaffar Khan and Mr Justice (Mujibuddin Ahmed) as unjustified. Another application by him was also dismissed and withdrawn.

Rejects Petition on Its Composition

BK270234 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The Supreme Court, in a 6-page written order made available today, has dismissed as misconceived the petition filed by Mr Abdul Hafeez Pirzada for enlargement of the bench hearing the Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto review petition in the Mohammad Ahmed Khan murder case. The court on Saturday last had verbally ordered the dismissal of the petition seeking to recall Mr Justice Kaiser Khan and Mr Justice Waheeduddin Ahmed.

The order, written by the chief justice, Mr Justice S. Anwarul Haq, and signed by all the other six judges of the bench, says that the relevant Supreme Court rules clearly and unambiguously lays down that, as far as practicable, the application for the appeal shall be posted before the same bench that delivered the judgment or ordered (?the review). In the present case the judgment under review was delivered by seven judges of the court who are all available on the bench for the disposal of the review petition. There is accordingly no justification for any departure or deviation from the relevant rules in this regard.

The order recalls that Mr Justice Kaiser Khan retired from the Supreme Court on attaining the age [word indistinct] prescribed by the constitution and the hearing after his retirement continued for almost 4 months during which period the defense counsel fully participated in the proceedings. Similarly, the order goes on to point out that although Mr Justice Waheeduddin Ahmed's appointment as ad hoc judge of the Supreme Court was extended by the president until such time as the hearing of the appeal in the murder case is concluded, but unfortunately due to his serious illness on the 21st of November last, he was unable to join the hearings even though it adjourned from time to time for a period of nearly 3 weeks. The entire position was considered at length by the remaining seven judges of the bench finally on the 5th of December in the light of the medical report on the illness of Mr Justice Waheeduddin Ahmed and submissions made by the counsels for the parties besides a letter by the ailing judge himself.

In a detailed order recorded by the seven judges on that date it was pointed out that due to incapability of the judge to sit on the bench due to his continued indisposition, there was no legal impediment in the way of the hearing of the case continuing with the remaining seven judges of the same bench. This number far exceeds the minimum number of three judges required under the relevant Supreme Court rules. The court points out that the order of the 5th December last was made in the presence of the defense counsel and after due consideration of all submissions made by him, the completed his arguments in the case after they had decided to proceed with the appeal before the remaining seven judges. For this reason as well, it is inappropriate for any member of the defense team to try to reopen the matter on consideration of the then judicial and legal [as heard] especially when the petitioner Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto himself appeared before this bench on 4 successive days and expressed his full confidence therein.

The order says that there could be no question of recalling the two judges for deciding the review petition as, due to unavoidable circumstances, they could not be associated with delivering the judgment in the murder case.

The court in its order has also referred to a communication expressed by the former President Mr Fazal Elahi Chaudhury to President Mohammad Ziaul Haq to which the court's attention had been drawn by Mr Abdul Hafeez Pirzada. The court said it is not for them to comment upon the purpose lying behind the publication of this letter which apparently was in the nature of confidential communication from the former head of state to the present head of the state. However, a perusal of this letter makes it clear that Mr Fazal Elahi Chaudhury had no intention of commenting upon the judicial verdict of the Supreme Court but was merely spelling out extrajudicial considerations. In the circumstances, the order says, the introduction of this letter in the present proceedings is nothing but an attempt to politicize the matter. They deprecate such an attempt.

PETITION CHALLENGES LEGALITY OF PAKISTAN'S RELIGIOUS COURTS

BK241727 Hong Kong AFP in English 1648 GMT 24 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Karachi, 24 Feb (AFP)--A petition was filed in the Sino High Court here today challenging the legality of the newly constituted religious courts in Pakistan.

The petitioner, Mr Naimat Moulvi, an advocate of the Supreme Court of Pakistan, maintained that President Ziaul Haq's order constituting the Shariat (Islamic law) courts in the country was unconstitutional and unwarranted.

The petitioner also prayed to the court to order the government to hold up execution of the death sentence of former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto who has been made a respondent in the petition pending its disposal.

The court will make a preliminary hearing of the case on Monday next.

ORDINANCE ISSUED SETTING UP LAW COMMISSION

BK250951 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 24 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The president has issued an ordinance to establish a law commission. The commission shall consist of the chief justice of Pakistan as ex-officio chairman of the commission. Not more than 10 members will be appointed by the federal government on the recommendation of the chairman and the federal law secretary. It will study and keep under review on a continuing systematic basis the statutes and other laws with a view to making recommendations to the federal and provincial governments to improve, modernize and reform them. It will also study the present system of legal education and make recommendations to the federal government to improve the standard of legal education. The federal or provincial governments may refer to the commission any matter relevant to its function for opinion and advice.

SRI LANKA

PREMADASA EXPLAINS STAND ON SRV-PRC DISPUTE

BK231651 Hong Kong AFP in English 1616 GMT 23 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Colombo, 23 Feb, (AFP)--Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadas, told parliament today that Sri Lanka, chairman of the non-aligned movement, was strictly non-aligned and would work for the immediate restoration of peace in Vietnam.

Mr Premadasa was replying to a member of the minority Tamil United Liberation Front, TULF, who asked the government to express its attitude on the Sino-Vietnam war.

The prime minister said the government would not dissipate its energies making irresponsible statements regarding the conflict.

He said "by being non-aligned we do not mean we are sitting on the fence. We are ready to condemn where stricture is necessary, but we must first study the facts".

Mr V. Dharmalingam of the TULF said his party condemned China for invading Vietnam.

Several leftist parties in Sri Lanka have also issued statements condemning China as the aggressor.

FOREIGN MINISTER HAMEED RETURNS FROM IRAQ, LIBYA

BK241332 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 24 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, returned to Sri Lanka today after successfully negotiating oil purchases from Iraq and Libya in the face of the stoppage of supplies from Iran, Sri Lanka's largest supplier. Following his talks, Iraq has agreed to provide 300,000 metric tons and Libya 200,000 metric tons of crude oil.

Mr Hameed also attended the ministerial meeting of the coordinating bureau of the nonalined countries in Maputo, Mozambique.